

Volume 36, Issue 3

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March 2006

INSIDE FEBRUARY'S ISSUE

TRIBAL - SECTION A



Tiger

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FEATURES - SECTION B



Harjo

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SCENE - SECTION C



Creek Art

Section C of *The Muscogee Nation News*: Carlisle Story to hit Silver Screen p. 1; Tulsa Indian art festival p. 2; Creek Nation Tulsa and Okmulgee Gaming Promotions p. 3; and Simple Simons Calzones, food review p. 4.

THIS MONTH'S REMINDER

The third annual Ceremonial Grounds/Mekko meeting will be held on April 8, in the Mound building from 10 a.m. until approximately noon. These meetings were initially setup by Chief A.D. Ellis to open doors of communication between the Nation and the Grounds. Therefore, an invitation is extended to the Grounds/Mekkos and two guests.

Special election official results

PROPOSITION 1: NCA 05-105 will be asking citizens to consider if they wish to amend the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation by substituting the phrase "The Muscogee (Creek) Nation" with "Mvskoke Etlvov" and substituting "Muscogee" or "Muscogee (Creek)" with "Mvskoke".

In favor 510 received 44.89%, Against, 626 received 55.11%.

PROPOSITION 2: NCA 05-106 - Shall Article IX be amended to add a new § 2 as follows: (A) A Constitutional Convention shall be convened. The Convention shall decide the date of the next Constitutional Convention. (B) The Constitutional Convention membership shall consist of eligible voters of the Nation. (C) A Constitutional Convention Commission is hereby established and shall have the administrative responsibility and authority to conduct the Constitutional Convention. The Constitutional Convention Commission shall consist of one (1) person from each of the three branches of Government and one (1) person from each District selected by the Caucus of the National Council Representative of each respective district. In the event any district Caucus fails to make its appointment to the Commission on or before the first day of March in a convention year the seated members of the Commission shall have the authority to nominate and fill any vacancy. (D) The Constitutional Commission shall organize and promulgate rules and regulations in February and proceed to carry out the process of a Constitutional Convention at will ensure citizen input and participation from throughout the Nation, completing their work on or before next February. The Commission shall conduct public hearings throughout the Nation to accept citizen views on constitutional amendments, revisions, alterations or additions and shall prepare a public report of all proposed amendments, revisions, alterations and additions. The Constitutional Convention Commission shall then work with the Election Board to prepare wording for separate ballots for each amendment, revision, alteration or addition to be submitted to the citizens at the election, completing with work on or before the last day of February. (E) Constitutional Convention amendments, alterations, revisions or new articles proposed by such Convention shall be submitted to the eligible voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at a Special Election, called by the Principal Chief within one hundred eighty (180) days, unless there is a General election within one hundred eighty (180) days, and approved by a majority of the eligible voters voting thereon before the same shall be effective. (F) The National Council shall enact such laws as are necessary to ensure a Constitutional Convention is conducted. The National Council shall appropriate necessary funds to accomplish the Constitutional Convention.

In favor, 864 76.53%, Against, 265 23.47%.

PROPOSITION 3: NCA 05-151 - Shall Article VI, § 2(a) be amended to read as follows: Each representative shall be elected by a vote of the district and shall hold office for four (4) years. These terms of office shall be staggered to ensure that one-half of the Council stands for election every two (2) years. Beginning with the first election after this amendment is approved, those persons filing for B and D seats shall serve for a period of two (2) years and those persons filing for A, C and E Council seats shall serve for a period of four (4) years. The B and D seats will stand for election in two years at which time the B and D seats shall commence a four-year term."

In favor 785 received 69.96%, Against 337 received 30.04%.

PROPOSITION 4: NCA 05-195 - Shall Article IX, Section 1 (a) (1), of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution be amended to clarify 2/3rds of full membership of the National Council for approval of a Constitutional Amendment.

In favor 933 received 82.20%, Against 202 received 17.80%.

Reintegration Program holds open house, ready to assist citizens



Pictured from left to right: Chubby Anderson, Danna Smith, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Tony Fish, and Andrea Alexander
photo by Jennifer Taryole

by STARLA BUSH

HENRYETTA — On March 3, the Reintegration Program held its open house. The open house was attended by Second Chief Berryhill, program participants, Department of Corrections, and many others in support of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Reintegration Program.

In August of 2004, Keeper Johnson, Okmulgee District representative created and presented a bill before the National Council to start a new program for the tribe. The "Reintegration Program" bill was passed and became active on March 21, 2005.

This program is designed to assist Creek citizens, who have been incarcerated or soon to be released, with

the opportunity to benefit from the Reintegration Program services, such as mentoring/faith-based support, personal counseling and guidance, identification retrieval, job preparation and placement, educational advisor and assistance in meeting immediate needs.

"The RiP Program helps make our communities and neighborhoods safer by providing opportunities for ex-felons to better their lives. Life sustaining needs are met first (i.e. shelter and food). Clothing, job advocacy and referrals to appropriate services are given based on the client's needs. You have to ask yourself one question: Do I feel safer with ex-felons walking the streets with no where to go, no food to eat or clothes

on their back or do I feel safer with their participation in a program where they can learn responsibility and take steps to become a productive citizen. Often times offender recidivism is the end result from the desperation our people face. Everybody that is human has made mistakes from time to time and in most cases the offender is the one who was the one caught. "Together We Can Make A Difference" is a way of giving a hand up instead of a hand out" states Program Coordinator, Tony Fish.

For more information about the Reintegration Program, call (918) 652-2676 or (800) 259-1059 which is located at 112 West Gentry.

Chief Ellis participates in reading program

OKMULGEE — On March 3, Chief Ellis made time in between tobacco compact meetings, a Coweta site inspection, and master site planning meetings, to

read a Dr. Seuss Classic, "I'm Not Going To Get Up Today," to the Pre-K and Kindergarten classes at the Okmulgee Primary School as part of the National Education Association's Read Across America. Ms. Lindsey, a Kindergarten teacher, coordinated the events throughout the week with different speakers and different themes.

National Education Association's Read Across America is an annual reading motivation program that calls for every child

in every community to celebrate reading on or around the late Dr. Seuss's birthday.

Throughout the nation teachers, teenagers, politicians, actors, athletes, parents/grandparents, Governors, Mayors and other elected officials recognized the role reading plays in their communities with proclamations and floor statements.

The program is to motivate children that reading is an important factor in student achievement and creating lifelong successful readers. Research has shown that children who are motivated and spend more time reading do better in school.

For more information, visit their website at: www.nea.org.



Communications Department to utilize website

TULSA — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is in the midst of introducing groundbreaking media exposure of the Nation to its citizens.

By accessing the Nation's website address, www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov, tribal citizens will now have the opportunity to get an up-close look at tribal happenings while not necessarily being in a close vicinity to the tribal capitol.

In April, live streaming of the Creek

Nation Radio Program, which is locally carried on KOKL AM 1240, will be available in a link, as well as the new *Muscogee Nation News Monthly* television show, that until this innovation had only been available to citizens in Tulsa, Henryetta, Muskogee and Okmulgee that were subscribers to Cox cable.

Now, citizens from all over can enjoy and be informed about their government, regardless of where they reside.

reach managing editor Lucas Taylor at: e-mail: lucast@muscogeenation-nsn.gov phone: (918) 732-7634 fax: (918) 758-0824

Office of the Principal Chief

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello again,
Today is March 3rd and just this morning I enjoyed one hour of reading a book to about 100 kindergarten students in Okmulgee. Seeing the patience that our teachers have to teach these youngsters is amazing, but this is our future and they must be taught.

Many very exciting things are beginning to happen throughout our Creek Nation.



Most all casinos are expanding to produce additional revenue, our major casinos are generating larger numbers and we must invest wisely to ensure our citizens are receiving their just rewards in services. The Council has ok'd all legislation necessary and I want to see construction started in April on our new basketball gym and all purpose building. Plans are also under way to propose to the National Council a four or five story new office complex south of the mound building. With this we could combine the complete tribal government under one roof. Also, all Tribal offices from O.S.U. and downtown could be relocated to the complex area. This would enable our citizens to reach any department at the complex.

March 5th I will travel to Washington

D.C. to lobby for continued funding of our JOM program. Their have been calls in Congress to stop funding this program and we are totally against this.

We also will be lobbying for more health money, more authority in fighting crime, support for putting land in trust and economic development.

Under construction now on the complex is the head start building, bus transit building and very soon work will start on the new Attorney General's building, Veterans building and Lighthouse Police building.

This nation is growing like never before and we must make progress while the economy in our nation is on the upward swing. Everything that is being done and all future plans are very well thought out to serve our

people.

Again, I salute our tribal employees, managers and directors for carrying out our plans for a greater future. In my State of the Nation presentation, I promised a decent pay raises for our lower level and middle employees. This is being addressed at this time and will be put into this year's budget.

Thanks to everyone and their prayers for all of us and we will continue to do our best for this nation.

Quote of the Month

"During the war between the Creeks and Cherokee many years ago the Cherokee would throw dynamite at the Creeks. The Creeks would light it and throw it back."

Second Opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

I want to apologize for being silent the last two months of publication. It seems every time I get ready to sit down and write something comes up. Without further adieu, I am printing more excerpts from the book titled Red Man's Law, Second Edition by Wilcomb E. Washburn.



I will start on page 18: "Today the character of the American Indian is generally drawn in a derogatory manner. The views of the first explorers and missionaries, who frequently saw heroic qualities in the Indian and whose reports provided the basis for the earlier literary conception of the 'noble savage,' have long since been buried in the shifting sands of more recent intellectual movements. None of the studies of 'the myth of the noble savage' considers the possibility that the early favorable observers of Indian character might not have been entirely deceived in their analysis. All such studies assume that any degree of no-

bility was a myth; so far have white arrogance and Indian abasement proceeded.

Another common charge against the Indians, which became the basis of the most popular eighteenth- and nineteenth-century justification for dispossessing them, was that they were wandering hunters with no settled habitations. This mode of securing their livelihood, it was charged, was too wasteful in a world in which other countries faced (or thought they faced) problems of overpopulation. The argument that hunters might justly be forced to alter their economy by a pastoral or agricultural people was voiced by many, humble and great, in the colonies and in England. John Locke was later expressed most succinctly by Theodore Roosevelt, who wrote that "the settler and pioneer have at bottom had justice on their side; this great continent could not have been kept as nothing but a game preserve for squalid savages."

Again, was not the European creating the myth he wished to use? Were the Indians in fact nomadic hunters? It was of course, possible to find examples of the eastern coast, those referred to by the early theorists, depended upon hunting as an important part of their economy and an integral function of their social and religious life. But agriculture was also a conspicuously essential part of Indian subsistence, and we may regard with suspi-

cious much of the literature of justification which overlooks this aspect of native life. The English knew well enough how important was Indian food: the early accounts are filled with references to the "Indian fields" along the rivers of Virginia and little else but native produce sustained the whites in the early years of settlement. It was the Indians who taught the settlers techniques of agriculture, as the familiar story Squanto and the Plymouth Colony relates, and the Virginia colonists also were instructed by the

Indians on how to plant crops and how to retrieve food from the rivers and bays. The natives were hunters, but they were also, and probably more importantly, agriculturists and fishermen.

The literature of justification similarly tends to overlook the fact that the Indians were, for the most part, town dwellers. The great body of contemporary graphic depictions in French, Spanish and English sources of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries shows substantial dwellings, palisaded villages, well-planned streets, garden plots, civic and religious centers. Indeed, throughout most of the seventeenth century in Virginia the only true town dwellers were the Indians; the English lived together compactly only during the fearful early years."

It is no wonder that our people of to-

day who live in Oklahoma are not truly aware of the most noble and glorious history of our past. Today, some of us are most fortunate to get a glimpse of the Ocmulgee Mounds in Macon, GA. It was at the onset of encroachment by the Europeans that a vast land was, so called, "discovered". What would you do if you were under orders by the Queen of a country to claim lands that were uninhabited or inhabited by people that didn't fit the mold of European social customs.

Can you imagine claiming a land and then being met by other people and they take you into their town and treat you to a feast. Then looking at a well planned city that has a huge temple mound and housing that is far superior than what they were used to. It's no wonder that their first thought of conquering the people would focus first on the high priest. They had to destroy our religion and subject us to understand and become believers in a religion that they didn't even believe in. Our life-style depended on spirituality and belief in the supernatural. We had in our lore that there was a son God and that this son God had a son who came to earth and died and resurrected.

In the next article, I will print another excerpt which will deal with the idea behind removal of Indians to one specified area. *Mvto*

January District Court filings

Continued

Criminal Felonies:

- MCN v. Mark Tate
Ct. 1 Possession of illegal drug paraphernalia
Ct. 2. Carrying Concealed Weapon
- MCN v. Timothy Walker
Ct. 1. Possession of illegal drug paraphernalia
- Protective Orders:**
- Jeana Bales and on Behalf of Minor Child Dylon N. Froehlich v. Nathan C. Froehlich
Ex-Parte
- Jeana Bales and on Behalf of Minor Child Dylon N. Froehlich v. Nathan C. Froehlich
Ex-Parte
- Jeana Bales and on Behalf of Minor Child Fylin N. Froehlich v. Nathan C. Froehlich
Ex-Parte
- Jeana Bales and on Behalf of Minor Child Dylon N. Froehlich v. Nathan C. Froehlich
Ex-Parte
- Child:**
- Phillip Glass v. St. Paul Travelers Bond a/k/a St. Paul Travelers Insurance Co. a/k/a St. Paul In-

- surance Co. a/k/a Travelers Insurance Co.
Complaint
- MCN v. Margie McDaniel
Petition
- Community Hospital Lakeview v. Deborah and/or Larry Deere
Small Claims
- Days Inn v. Terry Cook
Small Claims
- Car-Mart of Sapulpa v. Natalie Hickman
Small Claims
- St. John Sapulpa, formerly Bartlett Memorial Medical Center v. Tammy Woodward
Foreign Judgment
- Discover Bank v. Tabby Colburn
Foreign Judgment
- Alicia Stroble v. Nelson Johnson, individually and in his official capacity as Chairman of the MCN Office of Public Gaming, Cherokee J. Hicks, individually and in her capacity as Labor Relations Coordinator for the MCN
Petition
- Dixie Finance v. Kimberly Martin
Small Claims

- Courtesy Loans v. Rhonda Jim
Small Claims
- Courtesy Loans v. Joyce Watson
Small Claims
- Courtesy Loans v. Lona Lamb
Small Claims
- Tower Loans v. Rhonda Jim
Small Claims
- Tower Loans v. Joyce Watson
Small Claims

NOTICE

Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc. of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma is seeking contact with and/or information concerning the whereabouts of the following persons regarding an oil and gas lease in Sec. 28-08N-08E, Seminole County, Oklahoma: Susan Johnson Stuart, Frank Johnson, Roman Johnson, Rowena Johnson, Bobby J. Davis, Ronald Gene Meely, a/k/a Ronald Meely, Bartemus Newman, Katie Johnson Harjo, Thomas Johnson, Jr., Wilbur Johnson, Cynthia Johnson Wilson, a/k/a Cynthia, Johnson Castro, Vincent Harjo, Lena, Johnson, a/k/a Lena M.

Johnson, Jimmie McGirt, Floyd Johnson, Shirley McGirt Tiger, Bobby McGirt, Randy McGirt, Paul McGirt, Sally McGirt, a/k/a Sally McGirt Welch, Kenneth McGirt, and Wynette McGirt Hulbutta.

If you are listed above or have information regarding the whereabouts of such persons, please contact us at the following number:

Reagan Smith Energy Solutions, Inc., 2525 NW Expressway, Suite 312, Oklahoma City, OK 73112 or call collect at (405) 286-9326.

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7637 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

Cypose Leila Wetumke likiyet os

I recently traveled to visit my family back home in Wetumka and subsequently got snowed in during the recent ice storm. I ventured out from house to house visiting with friends and family and my last scheduled stop was to visit with my family's eldest member Leila Barnett-Barnes who just recently celebrated her 82nd birthday on Valentines Day and believe me she is the sweetest person you could ever wish to meet. I walked in her house after she very slowly walked back to her seat after getting up to let me in and I immediately noticed that house was a little cool. After we'd exchanged greetings I asked her if she was warm enough and said that her heater had been out for a while. I asked what the problem was and it was uncertain at that time. I immediately made a call to the Mvskoke Etlvww and spoke to Joellen Frank in Housing. Mrs. Frank explained over the phone

what was required to get the process started and it sounded like it was going to take a while. Once I explained to her that Grandma's situation required immediate attention she called another person in housing and they immediately contacted the service technician Ken Miller. I had the application for emergency assistance signed and returned it to the Housing office and Mr. Miller was at grandma's house shortly after I got back from Okmulgee. He was extremely polite and thoughtful and fixed the problem very quickly.

Needless to say grandma was very happy to see how fast that the problem could be fixed and I saw her eyes tear up with the happiness she was experiencing. I quickly had to change the subject because I didn't want her to start crying then I would have started! I took it upon myself to go to the Executive Directors office, Mr. Claude Sumner to let him know that our family really appreciated the service that the housing staff provided for our elder. I believe there are sincere employ-

ees there who believe in our traditional ways and hold our elders in the highest regards; this scenario helps me to believe that. I also feel that we must check with these elders to ensure that their needs are met, too many times our elders will need something and it just isn't their way to ask for something that they can do without, that is where we come in it is our responsibility to reach out to these elders and ensure that they are as comfortable as possible. I for one would love for the Nation to do a survey other than a census and get a true understanding of our elders' quality of life and put forth more effort to see that their needs are met.

Mr. Miller has worked for the MCN housing program for 10 years and is a great employee, he represents the Mvskoke Nation very well and he is welcome back at any time. Keep up the good work Ken. Henks Ce! Mvskokvike, mv to cekivkiv ci! Mvskoke Etlhkvike.

Nathan Anderson, Lawrence, KS

From the desk of the Speaker:

Hensci!

The first two months of the 14th Session of the National Council has been filled with much anticipation and expectations.

My first meeting as Speaker with the Second Speaker was for considerations in making appointments to the four Standing Committees. The appointment process was long and tedious. After final appointments, it reflects a well rounded membership to each committee. The committees have settled in and are addressing legislation in a timely manner and then presented to the National Council for consideration. I received a number of phone calls during the recent election on the questions for voting by our tribal members. Many concerns were raised and the Chief and I visited about these concerns. We agreed these concerns needed to be addressed and with the Business and Governmental Committee having oversight of the Election Board, they would be holding meetings to look into these concerns in the near future.

The National Council recently employed a Legislative Liaison Affairs/Writer for the purpose to continuous efforts of im-

proving the line of communications. In addition this position will be responsible for research on legislation on the state and national levels that affect tribal government. One of the responsibilities of this position will be to work with the Communications department to develop a web site for the National Council. There will be more information available concerning legislation that will be addressed. The goal will be the ability for tribal members to have an agenda for the monthly meetings posted so those that watch the web cast can follow along with the meeting. In addition, pertinent information regarding upcoming legislation will be made available for review. I encourage our tribal members to contact their representatives with questions and comments about their government. Remember, any in-



formation regarding your tribal government is your right to receive as it is considered public information.

In our efforts in working with all governmental entities at the state or national level on a government to government basis our goal is to have opportunities for discussions to be held. Recently, tobacco compacts between Tribes and the State of Oklahoma have been the heavy topic of discussions. For well over a year, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been unable to negotiate a tobacco compact with the state. Previous meetings held with the state, to a certain degree, were held with a take or leave it attitude by the state. The Muscogee (Creek)

Nation's attitude was to leave it and it's been that way until this week.

An interest by Oklahoma State Treasurer Scott Meacham has been expressed in renewing dialogue with Creek Nation on this

issue. Hopefully a meeting will be a beginning to an agreement that everyone can feel comfortable with concerning the tobacco industry in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Oklahoma State Senate Bill No. 1706 is of great interest to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. In the early years of Indian Housing, Tribal housing authorities were considered as state agencies. This practice allowed for the federal funds to go to the state or state agencies because Indian tribes were not eligible for housing authority purposes at that time. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is currently eligible to receive housing authority funds and has for a number of years to provide housing to its tribal members. This bill would allow for the tribe to assume the liabilities of the state agency housing authority and receive the assets of the state agency housing authority. In essence, Muscogee (Creek) Nation would assume the management and control. The bill passed by a vote of 46 in favor and 0 against in the Senate. Now it will go to the Oklahoma House for a vote.

On behalf of the National Council, thank you for the encouragement and most of all your prayers on our journey of representing you to the best of our ability.

Until next time, MVTO!

The Palen-Sostohkakat 14th session of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council

By: Rita Williams, Liaison Writer

Under the Preamble and Constitution Sec. 101: Supremacy of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution and Tribal Ordinances, the 1979 Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and tribal laws of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation are declared to be the supreme law and,

Sec. 104. "The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall determine the rules of its proceedings" - (Article VI, Section 4. (B) of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution). In accordance with the RULES OF PROCEDURES OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL enacted by NCR 03-002 Section 112. Duties of the Speaker/Second Speaker (The Speaker with the consent of the Second Speaker, has the authority of making committee assignments) I. Appoint Standing Committee Members: The Speaker shall have the authority to appoint any and all members to the four (4) established standing committees: 1) Business and Governmental; 2) Tribal Affairs; 3) Human Development; 4) Community Services and Cultural. When the need arises, only the Speaker may make reassignment of members to the Standing Committees after consultation with respective parties and with the approval of the Internal Affairs Committee. Section 117. Committees Establishment and Jurisdiction: A. There shall exist four (4) Standing Committees: Business and Governmental Operations, Tribal Affairs, Human Development and Community Services and Cultural. There shall be established Select/Sitting Committees as needed and determined by the Council.

B. General Committee Rules and Formation: Members of Standing Committees and Select Committee on Internal Affairs shall be appointed by the Speaker. The number of Representatives per committee shall be at least six (6) and no more than nine (9) voting members with the exception of Select/Sitting Committees. Further, these Rules of Procedure are the rules of the Committee as far as applicable.

C. Standing Committee Oversight Responsibilities: Each Standing Committee shall review and study, continuously, the application, administration, execution and effectiveness of those laws, in part or in whole, the subject matter of which falls under their jurisdiction. Each Standing Committee shall examine, review and study the organization and operation of the Nation, its tribal agencies and entities to determine whether the intent in which such agencies and entities were established are being implemented and carried out. Each Standing Committee shall examine, review, and study whether such agencies and entities should be continued, curtailed, or eliminated.

The role and responsibility of each standing committee are as follows:

BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENTAL OPERATION: Legislative Clerk: Jennifer Edwards

Chairman Roger Barnett, (Creek District) Vice-Chair Anthony Notaro, (McIntosh District) Shirlene Aide, (Tukvpytee District) Sam Alexander, (Tulsa District) Pete Beaver, (Muskogee District) Bill Fife, (Okfuskee District).

The Business and Governmental Committee shall have proper jurisdiction over the budget of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Finances of the Nation; Intergovernmental and Intra Governmental Policy; Tax Commission; Contractual Agreements; the Citizenship Board; the Election Board; Tribal Legal Operations (Judicial/Office of Attorney General); Gaming Operations Authority Board; Economic Development. The B&G Committee shall be responsible for drafting the National Council fiscal budget with assistance from the Financial Officer and Speaker.

TRIBAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: Legislative Clerk: Rebecca Crowles
Chairman Ronald Cleghorn, (Tulsa District) Vice-Chair Larry Bible, (Tulsa District)

Thomas McIntosh, (McIntosh District) Jeff Fife, (Okmulgee District) Eddie LaGrone, (Muskogee District) Robert Jones, (Okmulgee District).

The Committee on Tribal Affairs shall have proper jurisdiction over issues concerning Real Property; Contractual Agreements; Gaming, Manufacturing and Travel Plaza Management; Facilities Management; Crime/Lighthorse; Game and Wildlife; Economic Development; Comprehensive Planning; Housing Construction, Maintenance and Improvement; Environmental Services; Cultural Preservation (Realty); Road Improvement Program and other Tribal Affairs functions.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Legislative Clerk: Jayme Spaniard

Chairman Thomas Yahola, (Tukvpytee District) Vice-Chair Johnnie Greene, (Wagoner District) Richard Berryhill, (Wagoner District) Duke Harjo, (Creek District) James Jennings, (Okmulgee District) Keeper Johnson, (Okmulgee District).

The Committee on Human Development shall have proper jurisdiction over Education including but not limited to, Higher Education Scholarships, Counseling and College Entrance Assistance, Financial Aid Information, Adult GED Certificate Programs, Vocational Training Assistance, and Job Search Training and Placement Information to unemployed and under employed persons, Young Adult (teenage) Programs: Eufaula Dormitory Student Body and Staff; Eufaula Dormitory School Board; Cultural Preservation (Academic); and other related Human Development functions.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND CULTURAL COMMITTEE:

Legislative Clerk: Rebecca Mitschen

Chairman Tom Pickering, (McIntosh District) Vice-Chair Lena Wind, (Okfuskee District) Sylvanna Caldwell,

(Tukvpytee District) Cherrah Quiett, (Tulsa District) Paula Willis, (Tulsa District) Travis Scott, (Okfuskee District) Bo Johnson, (Okmulgee District).

The Committee on Community Services and Cultural shall have proper jurisdiction over Health and Human Services; Indian Child Welfare Program; Community Organization and Development; Cultural/Historical Research; Cultural Preservation and Enrichment; the Hospital and Health Systems Board including but not limited to Health Care to individual citizens, and other related Community Services/Cultural Services.

SELECT COMMITTEES ON INTERNAL AFFAIRS:

Chairman Thomas Yahola, Sylvanna Caldwell (alt), Vice-Chair Pete Beaver, Eddie LaGrone (alt), Johnnie Greene, Richard Berryhill (alt), Duke Harjo, Roger Barnett (alt), Bo Johnson, Jeff Fife (alt), Tom Pickering, Anthony Notaro (alt), Cherrah Quiett, Sam Alexander (alt), Travis Scott, Bill Fife (alt).

The National Council shall establish and maintain a Select Committee on Internal Affairs. One (1) member from each District shall be selected by the respective District Representative. The Internal Affairs Committee shall have proper jurisdiction over National Council matters such as personnel issues, policies and procedures, parliamentary procedures, and Tribal citizen's complaints against National Council Members.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON FACT-FINDING AND INVESTIGATIONS:

Chairman Roger Barnett, Duke Harjo (alt), Vice-Chair Jeff Fife, Bo Johnson (alt), Shirlene Aide, Sylvanna Caldwell (alt), Richard Berryhill, Johnnie Greene (alt), Eddie LaGrone, Pete Beaver (alt), Anthony Notaro, Thomas McIntosh (alt), Paula Willis, Larry Bible (alt), Lena Wind, Bill Fife (alt).

The National Council shall establish and maintain a Fact-Finding and Investigations Committee. One (1) member from each district shall be selected by the respective District Representatives. The proper jurisdiction shall include the investigation with subpoena powers of any alleged irregularities that exist in any branch, entity, subdivision and/or unit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Matters to be investigated shall be determined as established by ordinance and/or by the majority of the Fact Finding Committee. Each District shall have one additional member to serve as an alternate in the absence of respective District Representative.

COMMITTEE STAFF: National Council Secretary: Terry Cook

Article VI Section 5. (B) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council, shall choose its own secretary whose compensation shall be provided by ordinance.

The National Council Secretary shall make staff assignments to the Standing Committees with approval of the Speaker. The Select Committees of Internal Affairs and Fact Finding shall be staffed by the Committee Secretary of the National Council from wherein the subject matter of the issue being discussed lies (Jurisdiction).

Schumacher Funeral Home

Ron Schumacher is Announcing
Two new additions to our staff with over
80 years of combined experience to better serve you
Bob McLemore and Patty Fletcher

Honoring Muscogee Creek Traditions

130 W. 8th St. Bristow, OK 74010 918.367.2244	1321 W. Columbus Okmulgee, OK 74839 918.623.1133
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Two Locations to serve your needs:
B.I.A. & Tribal Burial Funds may
include a complete Funeral Service

Haskell hosts Region IV AISES Conference

LAWRENCE, KAN — Bucculae the Haskell American Indian Science & Engineering Society (AISES) Chapter is holding the Region IV AISES Conference to be held on April 1st the Haskell Indian Nations University. This year's conference is in conjunction with the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) National Basketball Tournament also at Haskell University.

Haskell is located in Lawrence, Kansas with 907 Native American students who represent over 150 tribes from across the United States. In 1884, Haskell was established as a grade school and throughout the years developed into a 4-year university. Today, Haskell offers several Baccalaureate Degrees with many students graduating in several fields striving for successful futures.

This year's conference will have a new twist challenging each of the exhibitors who chose to participate in a 5 minute presentation. What can you do with 5 minutes? Conference participants will include several High School students from both the Oklahoma and Kansas school systems who are only looking to find a new future, and we gladly accept their attendance through our already successful AISES family!!! As some of you may already know, we will have several college AISES Chapters attending from

the 6 states within our region including, Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, and Arkansas. With the combination of the AIHEC basketball tournament, this can be a unique opportunity for each and every exhibitor to find that one individual who can make a difference in both your company's and his/her futures.

The Career Fair at the AISES conference will provide you with an opportunity to display your information and/or recruit for positions within your organization. The event will begin with a continental breakfast from 8:00-9:30 am. Table displays will be open to students from 10 am - 3 pm. Participants need to provide their own audiovisual equipment, electrical cords and other accessories they may need.

The Career Fair fee will be \$100 and space is reserved on a "first come, first serve" basis. Please return your registration form and fee by March 24, 2006. A request that each exhibitor provide a donation of an item needed for door prizes to be held throughout the day's event representing your organization.

Anyone interested in participating in the AISES Career Fair, complete and return the form by March 24. If additional information is needed, call (785) 840-7734.

First Annual American Indian Small Business Expo

Reprinted from *Native American Times* with permission.

DENVER CO — Participants from American Indian tribes, Indian small business owners and cultural tourism specialists are joining with federal government officials and corporate contractors at the Red Lion Hotel on March 20-23, for a conference that studies the growing Indian Country small business and tourism sector. The theme of "Building Economic Strength in Indian Communities" addresses the positive aspects of business growth that is occurring in Indian Country.

The Western American Indian Chamber and Rocky Mountain Indian Chamber of Commerce are hosts for this small business expo that expects to attract participants to the subjects of small Indian business development, government contracting, tribal business development and cultural/heritage tourism.

"The ultimate goal of this gathering is to assess how American Indian tribes and individuals can develop sustainable business enterprises in ways that improve tribal and community economic opportunity and support the growth of Indian business in the government and corporate contracting arenas. The conference will explore avenues for native people to work with federal and corporate partners who share common values regarding support for sustainable Indian communities" said, Ben Sherman, President of the Western American Indian Chamber.

The three-day conference will feature speakers as Karlene Hunter, Lakota, honored as the Native American Business Woman of the Year in 2003 by the National Indian Business Association. Hunter owns the first and only reservation-based direct marketing and telemarketing company in the United States. She has raised more than \$10 million in contributions for the Oglala Lakota College and serves on the board of the Native American Rights Fund.

The annual conference of the Native Tourism Alliance is included as part of the agenda of the Indian Business Expo. Indian tourism presentations and workshops will be offered. Dr. Susan Guyette will conduct workshops on tribal tourism development planning.

The conference is priced at \$200.00 and includes two receptions, general sessions, workshops, materials, lunches, breaks and dinner. Exhibit booths are priced at \$300.00 for corporate trade booths and \$150.00 for native art/craft booths. American Express, MasterCard and Visa credit cards are accepted.

Special conference lodging rates are available at the Red Lion Hotel, the site of the conference. Call (303) 321-6666 for reservations and mention the Indian business conference.

Register online at www.indiancountry.org. Call (303) 661-9819 or (303) 620-9292 for information. Also e-mail Kim Cameron at kim@rmicc.org.

Communications Department develops TV Commercials

OKMULGEE — As many people have noticed, the Muscogee Nation Communications Department has been showing its own television show on Cox Channel 3 for the past month and a half.

What many people probably do not know is that the majority of the commercials seen during our television program are made by the Creek Nation Communications Department.

We go on site to shoot footage for the commercial, write the script and record voice overs, and take care of all the editing on the

commercial that needs to be done, as well as give it a spot during our television show for \$250.

That also includes allowing the customer to preview the commercial and make any changes that they desire.



We have made the commercial for the Native American Times as well as the commercial for the New Tradition Clinic.

If you would like to speak to someone about having a commercial made for you or your business contact Gerald Wofford at gwofford@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Creek man president of Native American Bank

Reprinted from *Native American Times* with permission.

OKLAHOMA CITY — A Native American man from Oklahoma has been appointed as president and chief executive officer of Native American Bank, a national organization.

J.D. Colbert, Chickasaw/Creek, comes to his new company from Bank2 in Oklahoma City, a lending institution that is 100% owned by the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma.

"I am very excited and honored to join Native American Bank as president and CEO. Native American Bank has immense potential to become the largest and most successful provider of financial services across Indian Country," said Colbert. "I greatly look forward to working with our board and staff in further positioning Native American Bank to be the catalyst for the economic improvement in Indian Country."

"We are very pleased to have Mr. Colbert join us as president and CEO," said Tex Hall, chairman of the board of directors of the bank's holding company and a former president of the National Congress of American Indians. "J.D. Colbert brings a strong record of success in the executive positions that he has held in banking and Indian Country. We believe that he is a great fit for our

organization and we look forward to exciting accomplishments under his leadership."

Colbert is a well-known figure in Oklahoma Indian circles. Early last year he was selected for the Board of Directors of the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce. In addition to his roles with the Greater OKC Chamber and the OKC chapter of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma, Colbert is on the State Board of Directors of the AICCO. He also serves on the board of Oklahoma City's Empowerment Zone EDA Revolving Loan Fund and on the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors for Oaks Indian Mission in Oaks, OK. Colbert is the founder of the North American Native Bankers Association, an association of banks owned by tribes and American Indian individuals.

Native American Bank is a \$63 million dollar bank with corporate headquarters in Denver, a retail branch in Browning, Montana and loan production offices in Box Elder, Montana and Anchorage, Alaska. Twenty-four federally recognized Indian tribes, Alaska Native corporations and tribal organizations own the bank. For more information about Native American Bank, visit the bank's website at www.nabna.com.

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise Updates

OKMULGEE — Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise was recently awarded an additional contract in the amount of \$440,000 with the Kaw Nation Casino in Newkirk, Oklahoma. "MNBE Technology Services is installing new camera's and DVR's for the new casino expansion. They have also been awarded a \$80,000 contract for a card access system. We want to congratulate BJ Waggoner and his group for a job well done."

MNBE has announced the promotion of tribal citizen and Henryetta resident BJ Waggoner as the new Division

Manager for Technology Services. "BJ has been with MNBE since August 2003 and was instrumental in helping in the development of this division," said Michael Nalley, Director. "He is a natural fit to lead this group and very deserving of the promotion."

They have started several new projects with the Oklahoma Department of Transportation. MNBE won a Fiber project that is starting soon and the value is \$700,000. The group also has several bridge rehabilitation projects that are subcontracted from a prime valued at \$160,000.

Smoke shop owners seek to influence state government

Reprinted from *Native American Times* with permission

ANADARKO — Thinking strength in numbers, an independent Comanche smoke shop owner from Anadarko has formed a group of like-minded individuals to battle the state's efforts to clamp down on their businesses.

"There are too many people out there standing alone," Charles Wells told the *Native American Times*. "We can have a bigger voice to tell the legislature that we are not going to lay down for this."

Wells says he first began to become concerned when Oklahoma voters passed State Question 713. The legislation raised the tobacco tax-a move some considered a violation of previously signed state/tribal agreements.

Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith wrote that the legislation

is "in conflict" with the Cherokee's compact with the state and "unacceptable."

Although of a different tribe, Wells agrees.

"We are trying to do tribal business and it seems as though a compact doesn't mean anything," Wells said.

So the Coalition of Indian Smoke Shops was hatched, and Wells is the current chairman. He says that so far nine tribes have joined the coalition, and organizers are looking for more. Emergency Rules recently signed into law further convinced Wells of the need to "unite the tribes." The rules were passed despite vigorous protests from tribal leaders and individual smoke shop owners.

Anyone interested in joining the coalition, or finding out more information, call 1-888-202-3474.

AICCO accepting applications

TULSA — Ad space is being sold and reserved for the 2006-07 AICCO Membership Directory. Reserve your ad space as soon as possible for this premiere publication, published in both print edition and on CD. This publication is requested nationwide, and this year's

distribution will be 7,500 print directories, both inside and outside of Oklahoma, as well as over 10,000 in CD's. To advertise, call the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma at (800) 652-4226, or e-mail chamber@aicco.org.

Request for Muscogee Business information

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is accepting information on Muscogee owned and / or operated businesses and Muscogee business owners. If you, or someone you know, owns or operates a business and is a Muscogee Citizen write in and let us know about them and let us let everyone else know about them as well. It doesn't matter if their business is a multinational corpo-

ration or doing bead work and selling it out of their house, all Muscogee owned or operated businesses are applicable.

Information on businesses will be ran as space permits and on a first come first served basis. Up to one picture can be ran with the information.

Please send information to: Muscogee Creek Nation Communications Department, ICO: Joshua Slane, P. O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK. 74447.

HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

MCN Division of Health Administration

OIHC wins award for awareness event

OKMULGEE — The Women's Health Clinic at Okmulgee Indian Health Center (OIHC) recently won third place in a Breast Cancer Awareness Month Activities Contest sponsored by Positive Promotions, Inc. The nationwide contest recognizes the best and most creative activities and materials used to celebrate breast cancer awareness month. Photos of the Pink Party Activities held October 12, 2005 at the Mound Building as well as copies of the Dream Catcher Logo used for t-shirts and other materials won the third place award for the clinic. These materials illustrate how health education and promotional materials were tailored to suit the Muscogee (Creek) and other tribal populations served by OIHC. The growth of the Pink Party over the past three years illustrates how the OIHC Women's Clinic has provided breast cancer awareness activities to a growing number of persons each year. Positive Promotions is company that provides banners, cups, ink pens, etc. to promote health and other activities. As third place winner, OIHC will receive \$100 in merchandise and the OIHC breast cancer awareness activities will be highlighted on the Positive Promotions website in the fall. For information about breast cancer or women's health, contact the OIHC Women's Clinic at (918)758-2717.

CHR Program provides healthy presentations

OKMULGEE — As many already know, the CHR (Community Health Representative) Program provide quality presentations and health fairs to various communities within the Creek Boundaries. Recently the Creek Nation CHR Program provided a CDC (Center for Disease Control) presentation on antibiotics at the Elderly Nutrition Center in Holdenville in English and the Muscogee language on February 20. Manager Cydi Gilks and CHR's attending were Senora Lumpkin, Scott Harjo, Ace Bukner, Delois Roulston, Edward Scott. Guests from CDC were Darcia Johnson and Pat Cook, other guests included Dione Harjo, Commander, CHR, EMS, Health Education Coordinator from Oklahoma City IHS Department. For more information regarding presentations, healthfairs or other CHR services provided, contact the Community Health Representative Program at (918)756-1941.

Poison Awareness in Headstart centers

OKMULGEE — March is Poison Awareness Month and the CHR program will be providing presentations in the Creek Nation Headstart centers, beginning with Tulsa Creek Nation Headstart center, Sapulpa Creek Nation Headstart Center on March 20, and Yardeka Headstart center March 21; Wilson Headstart Center March 21; Holdenville Early Child Development March 22 at 9:30am and Yeager Headstart at 10:00 am as well as Moss Pre-K. March 23 Checotah Headstart and Eufaula Headstart at 9:30am.

CHR's will be doing health fairs and presentations in upcoming months at schools and community centers. Contact the CHR office for more information at (918)756-1941.

Tobacco Prevention post signs for policy

OKMULGEE — Have you seen the signs? The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program has placed signs at all Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Centers. The signs read "No commercial tobacco abuse on health facilities property". The signs were placed at the health centers to confirm the no smoking policy. The policy also includes all forms of commercial tobacco and all health centers are commercial tobacco free.

Commercial tobacco abuse includes cigarettes whether hand rolled or rolled commercially, chew tobacco, cigars, snuff, and pipe tobacco.

Smoking or the use of any commercial tobacco product is prohibited in or on all buildings, grounds, parking lots, ramps, vehicles, and sidewalks adjacent to the properties owned, leased, or operated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation community centers hosting the Elderly Nutrition Program may apply this policy at their facility if they so choose to do so.

"The health and well being of our tribal members and our tribal employees are the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tobacco Prevention Program's number one goal," said Marcus Proctor, Program Specialist. The policy is a higher standard of health care. It is a safety standard for all the citizens. One third of all fines are started by cigarettes. The MCN Health System wants to do its part.

"I was happy to see the signs placed because they let everyone know about the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System's Commercial Tobacco Free Policy which went into effect July 1, 2005," says Debra Isham, Director of the Okmulgee Health Center. "Before the policy was established, some people used to smoke outside the main doors to the clinic which meant that patients, including children or elders with all types of health problems sometimes had to walk through a cloud of smoke to enter the

clinic," she added.

The policy prohibits smoking or the use of commercial tobacco anywhere on tribal health clinic and program premises, in or around buildings, grounds, parking lots, ramps, vehicles and sidewalks adjacent to the properties of the health system and applies to employees, patients, providers, volunteers, visitors, vendors and the public.

"Many hospitals and organizations have also adopted this same type of policy.

There are posters and signs on all clinic doors, but some people don't realize that the policy also covers the outside of the property as well. When informed about the policy, most are agreeable and say they didn't know smoking was prohibited on the clinic grounds and parking lots," said Isham.

For more information about the no smoking policy signs, contact the Tobacco Prevention Program at (918)756-6231.



Melody Hampton and Bert Robison display new sign at the Eufaula Health Center



Debra Isham displays new "no commercial" sign at the Okmulgee Health Center

Project Venture presents model methods for summer youth camp wellness program

by Carla Brown

OKMULGEE — On February 22 the Behavioral Health Program hosted a Youth Summer Camp Wellness Program Planning Committee meeting. McClellan Hall, Executive Director of the National Indian Youth Leadership Project (NIYLP) in Gallup, New Mexico, gave a presentation about Project Venture, an exemplary program for youth based on positive activity.

Project Venture, part of the NIYLP, was recognized as the most effective program serving Native American youth in a recent national cross-site evaluation of prevention program funded by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention. This program

is the first Native prevention program to reach the highest level of recognition on CSAP's on-line registry of model programs at www.samhsa.gov.

"This program utilizes a positive approach to increasing strengths of Indian youth, rather than the deficit model" explains Hall.

Project Venture has a "no junk food or carbonated beverage and nutrition policy. Hall and staff work mainly with middle school youth using a peer culture model and building on the clan concept of socialization. Project Venture stresses on teaching the importance of being positive and having respect for each other and for all aspects of nature.

60 replication camps have developed

the Project Venture methods within 17 States.

"The Summer Youth Camp and Wellness Program is seen by the Behavioral Health staff as a great opportunity to address substance abuse issues and behavioral problems with adolescents in a more proactive manner. Our goal is to develop a prevention program that entails interacting with these youth over a year period of time. This would include involvement in a summer camp and after school activities. We also hope to secure grants to carry this program on beyond the initial years funding," says Mr. Daley Tearn, the Acting Director for the Behavioral Health Program.

DOCTOR'S NOTE by Lawrence Vark DO, CMO

The lungs are part of the respiratory system. Their function is to supply oxygen to the blood while removing carbon dioxide. Lung cancer may spread to the lymph nodes or other tissues in the chest (including the other lung). In many cases, lung cancer may also spread to other organs of the body, such as the bones, brain, or liver. Significance of lung cancer: Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in U.S. men and women.

Lung cancer prevention; Lung cancer can often be associated with known risk factors for the disease. Many risk factors are modifiable though not all can be avoided.

Tobacco: Studies show that smoking tobacco products in any form is the major cause of lung cancer. People who stop smoking and never start again lower their risk of developing lung cancer or of having lung cancer recur (come back). Many products, such as nicotine gum, nicotine sprays, nicotine inhalers, nicotine patches, or nicotine lozenges, may be helpful to people trying to quit smoking, as well as

antidepressant drugs. In addition, a number of efforts at the community, state, and national level have helped to reduce smoking rates.

Secondhand tobacco smoke also causes lung cancer. This is smoke that comes from a burning cigarette or other tobacco product, or smoke that is exhaled by smokers. People who inhale second hand smoke are exposed to the same cancer-causing agents as smokers, although in weaker amounts. Inhaling secondhand smoke is called involuntary or passive smoking.

Environmental Causes: There are other causes of lung cancer in the environment, but their effect on lung cancer rates is small compared to the effect of cigarette smoking.

Cancer-causing agents that may be found indoors, especially in the workplace, include asbestos, radon, arsenic, chromium, nickel, tar and soot. These substances can cause lung cancer in never-smokers, and combine with cigarette smoke to further increase lung cancer risk in smokers. Many

countries are working to control these cancer-causing agents in the workplace.

Air pollution may also increase the risk of lung cancer. Studies show that lung cancer rates are higher in cities with higher levels of air pollution.

Beta Carotene: Studies show that heavy smokers who avoid taking beta carotene supplements may avoid further increasing their risk of lung cancer compared with smokers who do take beta carotene.

Diet and Physical Activity: Studies show that a diet rich in fruit, and possibly vegetables, may help lower the risk of lung cancer, while heavy alcohol drinking may increase the risk of lung cancer. In addition, studies show that people who are physically active may have a lower risk of lung cancer than those who are not, even after taking cigarette smoking into account.

Chemoprevention: Chemoprevention is the use of specific natural or man-made drugs to reverse, suppress, or prevent cancer growth. Chemoprevention is an area of active clinical research. It has not yet become standard therapy.

Housing

Section A, Page 6

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

March 2006

NOTICE FROM HOUSING

The Admissions Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is requesting that the applicants on the following list contact the Admissions Department and update their application in order to continue consideration for future housing opportunities. Failure to contact Housing will result in no further processing of application and may require you to reapply to the program. You may contact the Admissions Department at 918-759-4531 or 1-800-259-5050.

Anderson, Nicole D. 2301 W. Tecumseh Tulsa, OK 74127	Haynes, Dennis G. 715 Muttloke Dr.; Apt. B Bristow, OK 74010	Robison, Michelle 226 S. Hincley Holdenville, OK 74848
Barnes, Lloyd P. 1565 S. 67 th East Ave. Tulsa, OK 74112	Hicks, Sherry L. 107-B Fus Cate Okemah, OK 74859	Rojas, Kayla S. 1618 N. Aberdeen Muskogee, OK 74403
Bigpond, Cody C. P. O. Box 402 Depew, OK 74028	Holsey, Kimberly 4774 Herrick Rd. Beggs, OK 74421	Snow, Beverly R. P. O. Box 96 Henryetta, OK 74437
Castro, Shannon R. Route 1, Box 206 Asher, OK 74826	Horse Jr., Dewey E. 603 N. Ohio Ave.; Apt. B Okmulgee, OK 74447	Sperry, James A. 1110 N. Griffin Okmulgee, OK 74447
Checotah, LaShonna D. P. O. Box 715 Beggs, OK 74421	Horton, Brian R. HC-64, Box 906 Eufaula, OK 74432	Spiegel, Shannon M. 620 E. Jefferson St. Muskogee, OK 74403
Clark, Chastity C. 301 N. Miami; Apt. 9 Okmulgee, OK 74447	Hummingbird, Joseph D. P. O. Box 485 Okemah, OK 74859	Stevens, Jonathan R. 820 Louisiana St. Muskogee, OK 74403
Cole, Jerry R. 4401 S. Columbus Muskogee, OK 74401	Jay, Cara M. 1428 E. Elberta Ct. Porter, OK 74454	Taylor, Krystal A. Route 4, Box 108 Checotah, OK 74426
Cromwell, Adrian J. 812 West South Ave. Checotah, OK 74426	Johnson, Ashley L. 7709 West 7 th St. Tulsa, OK 74127	Thompson, Barbara A. P. O. Box 73 Castle, OK 74833
Crosby, Shonna E. 11124 East 28 th Pl. Tulsa, OK 74129	Lewis, Cynthia L. 1611 S. Ulca Ave.; #134 Tulsa, OK 74104	Tiger, Lena M. 1312 E. Dewey Sapulpa, OK 74066
Dale, Codi J. P. O. Box 356 Sapulpa, OK 74067	Lindsey, Thomas E. 7221 West 16 th St. Tulsa, OK 74127	Tyndall, Shawn M. 419 S. Grand Ave.; #A Okmulgee, OK 74447
Davis, Doris E. 4512 N. Johnstown Tulsa, OK 74105	Lowe, Kimberly A. 952 S. 61 st 15C Tulsa, OK 74136	Tyon, Jennifer L. 532 S. Zuni Tulsa, OK 74104
Durrett, Jimmy D. Route 3, Box 7180 Eufaula, OK 74432	McGee, Elizabeth E. 118 Opvik Drive Eufaula, OK 74432	Vance, Teresa A. 201 N. 10 th Okemah, OK 74859
Estep, Lisa 604-A McIntosh Drive Eufaula, OK 74432	McGirt, David M. 500 N. Alabama St. Wetumka, OK 74883	Wadley, Caysie G. 11700 N. 240 Rd. Okmulgee, OK 74447
Fish, Jennifer L. 610 E. Tiger Wetumka, OK 74883	McNac, Peter 1308 N. Collins Okmulgee, OK 74447	Walker Jr., Barney 14025-B S. 287 th E. Ave. Coweta, OK 74429
Foster, Georgia J. Route 2, Box 1774 Talihina, OK 74571	Moore, Phillip C. 400 Crutchmer Pl.; Apt. B-14 Okmulgee, OK 74447	Watashe, Donnell M. 12964 S. 241 West Ave. Sapulpa, OK 74066
Franklin, Melanie G. Rout 1, Box 40-B Okemah, OK 74859	Murch, Jessica E. 519 Baltimore Muskogee, OK 74403	Williams, Autumn M. 12449 W. 186 th St. South Sapulpa, OK 74066
Gay, Equala M. 724 S. 90 th E. Ave.; Spt #1013 Tulsa, OK 74133	Noon, Eric R. 1659 S. 130 th East Ave. Tulsa, OK 74108	Williams, Suzy L. 102 Lou Dr. Holdenville, OK 74848
Goodvoice, Lauren R. 14900 S. Birch; Apt. 401 Glenpool, OK 74033	Payne, Kristine 111-B Este Cate Okemah, OK 74859	Wilson, Bobbie J. HC-63, Box 71-B Eufaula, OK 74432
Gourd, Nora K. P. O. Box 654 Glenpool, OK 74033	Perryman, Anna M. P. O. Box 523 Holdenville, OK 74848	Wright, Lee A. 1713 Ouall Run Muskogee, OK 74403
Grider, Adreanne N. 2430 S. Jackson Ave.; #9C Tulsa, OK 74107	Peyketewa, Gina 2326 N. Atlanta Pl. Tulsa, OK 74110	Wright, Roymecka L. 8618 East 66 th Pl.; #D Tulsa, OK 74133
Harvey, Millie 14170 S. Poplar Pl. Glenpool, OK 74033	Pierce, Melvin J. 625 W. 149 th St. Glenpool, OK 74033	Yargee, Jennifer A. 700 East 7 th Holdenville, OK 74848

LISTED ARE LAST KNOWN ADDRESSES OF APPLICANTS

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division/Authority is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact

Lenora McPerryman

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117



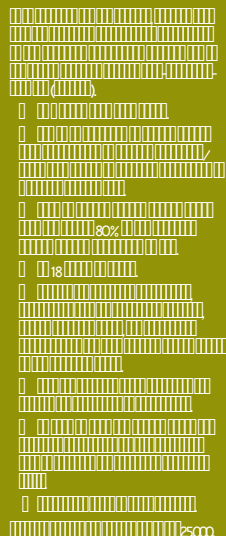
Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:

**MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM**
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program
is a program of the
**MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
DIVISION OF HOUSING**



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Division of Health Clinician - Behavioral Health Services

A Masters Degree in Counseling Psychology or related field. One (1) year relevant experience in counseling, LPC, LMFT or LCSW licensure/certifications valid in the State of Oklahoma is preferred. Incumbents who do not possess valid licensure/certifications as specified must be actively working toward obtaining this licensure/certification.

Property & Supply Clerk

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. One (1) year of related experience.

Clinical Director - Behavioral Health Services

A Ph.D. or Psy.D. in Clinical or Counseling Psychology from an accredited college/university. Five (5) years experience as a licensed psychologist. Five (5) years of managerial or supervisory experience. Current Licensure by the State of Oklahoma as a Psychologist or Health Services Psychologist is required.

Staff Dentist - Sapulpa

A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Or, a DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

Coding Specialist

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A bachelors or Associates Degree in Health Administration or Technology is preferred. Three (3) to five (5) years relevant experience dependent upon the education qualifications stated above. Certification as a CPC or CCS-P is required. Certification from an accredited coding certification program is required. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

Dental Assistant - Sapulpa

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of training from an accredited school as a Dental Assistant and/or Certificates of Training received from the Oklahoma State Board of Dentistry or IHS is preferred but not required. One (1) year of relevant experience as a dental assistant.

Medical Lab Technician - Eufaula

A High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Successful completion of 90 semester hours of academic credit necessary to satisfy requirements of the position as well as a structured curriculum in Medical Laboratory Techniques at an accredited institution is required. Four (4) years of pertinent full-time Laboratory experience. Valid ASCP certification as a MT is required.

Physician Assistant - (2 Positions)

Successful completion of an accredited course of study specifically designed for training professional Mid-Level Providers. Three (3) years of relevant experience. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AACMC or other body established for this purpose.

Registered Nurse - CNCH

Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing. One (1) of relevant experience required. Incumbent must possess a current State of Oklahoma Nursing license.

Billing Technician (Accounts Receivable)

Associate Degree in accounting or related business field is preferred. One (1) year of relevant experience is required with an Associates Degree. Four (4) years of relevant experience may be substituted for the educational requirements stated above.

Lead Cook/Supervisor - ENP

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Two (2) years relevant experience in foodservices or related field. Incumbent must possess a valid food handler's permit, valid Oklahoma State Drivers License and be insurable.

Dental Hygienist - Coweta

Completion of a Dental Hygienist curriculum from an accredited institution. One (1) year of relevant experience as a dental hygienist. Certificates of training received from the Oklahoma State Board of Dentistry or Indian Health service (IHS).

Physician Assistant - Okemah (2 Positions)

Successful completion of an accredited course of study specifically designed for training professional Mid-Level Providers. One (1) year of relevant experience preferred. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AACMC or other body established for this purpose.

ing professional Mid-Level Providers. One (1) year of relevant experience preferred. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AACMC or other body established for this purpose.

Compliance Officer

GS-8, \$14.83 per hour: Associate Degree in Business or Health Administration or related field is and completion of formal coding training (CPC or CCS-P is preferred) and three (3) years of progressively responsible experience in medical/hospital billing.

GS-10, \$17.89: Bachelors degree in Business or Health Administration or related field and two (2) years of relevant experience.

GS-12, \$21.06: M.B.A., M.P.H. or C.P.A. and one (1) year of relevant work experience. Compliance experience is strongly preferred for any of the above levels. Valid Oklahoma Driver's License is required.

Medical Lab Technician - Eufaula

Successful completion of 90 semester hours of academic credit from an accredited institution to satisfy requirements of the position and completion of a structured curriculum in Medical Laboratory Techniques received from a school of Medical Technology recognized by an accredited board of registry. Two (2) years of pertinent full-time Laboratory experience as a Technician Trainee in a Laboratory performing highly complex testing may be substituted for the educational requirements. Valid ASCP certification as an MLT or an MT is required.

Physician - Sapulpa

Candidates must be a graduate of an accredited college/university of medicine receiving a M.D. or D.O. and must possess a current State of Oklahoma license to practice medicine, a DEA license. Medicare provider agreement, and ACLS certification. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements. Incumbent must possess current State of Oklahoma License to practice medicine and /or be able to obtain this license prior to employment with the Health System

Physician

Candidates must be a graduate of an accredited college/university of medicine receiving a M.D. or D.O. and must possess a current State of Oklahoma license to practice medicine, a DEA license. Medicare provider agreement, and ACLS certification. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements. Incumbent must possess current State of Oklahoma License to practice medicine and /or be able to obtain this license prior to employment with the Health System.

Nurse Practitioner - (Float Status)

Successful completion of an accredited course of study specifically designed for training professional Mid-Level Providers. Three (3) years of relevant experience. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AACMC or other body established for this purpose.

Medical Lab Technician - Okemah

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Successful completion of 60 semester hours of academic credit necessary to satisfy requirements of the position as well as a structured curriculum in Medical Laboratory Techniques at an accredited institution is preferred. Two (2) years of relevant full-time Laboratory experience performing highly complex testing as a Technician Trainee may be substituted for the educational requirements. Certification as a MLT through the ASCP is preferred.

Chief Operating Officer (C.O.O.)

Bachelor's Degree in Business or related field is required. A Masters Degree in same area of study is preferred. Two (2) years relevant experience gained through working in a tribal setting.

Optometry Technician - Okemah

High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. One (1) year related experience in an Optometry Clinic is preferred.

For more information, visit the website at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/healthadministration/jobs.htm or call (918)756-4333 or (800)782-8291.

Clovis as new 4-H Coordinator

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Creek Nation has hired Rick Clovis as the new 4-H Coordinator. Clovis has a B.S. degree in Animal Science from Oklahoma State University.

He and his family near Oktaha in Muscogee County.

Creek Nation 4-H was established to assist Creek Youth in participating in the Oklahoma Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program.

The goal of 4-H is to provide a wide range of educational opportunities to youth.

"Most people think 4-H is just about livestock showing, however we also have other programs which include: junior livestock shows, speech and demonstration projects, fabrics and fashion, wildlife, shooting sports, science and technology as well as other projects, such as the dog club," said Rick Clovis.

The common goal of these activities is to provide a challenging and interesting learning opportunity, but at the same time provide personal development. Communication skills, self confidence, leadership training, and citizenship experiences are prime examples of skills developed in 4-H.

Once the youth become involved in their local club and choose a project they

find personally interesting, they start long term involvement in 4-H which provides maximum benefits of the program. "This program provides youth with an area of self confidence and will help them to be successful in adult life," says Clovis.

Fun activities are also an important part of 4-H. These activities help to attract youth to the 4-H program and allow them to develop friendships and experience enjoyable social experiences.

Some fun 4-H activities are Share the Fun, county summer camps, overnight camps in science and technology, showing livestock, OSU basketball games, professional hockey games, District Fall Leadership Conference at Fin and Feather Resort, State Roundup in Stillwater, and out of state trips to Washington, D.C. Denver, Kansas City and Atlanta.

Exposure to educational and career opportunities is also a key benefit of involvement in 4-H. Additional programs and opportunities for Creek youth are being developed, with announcements to come in the following months.

Clovis' office is located in Okmulgee at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal complex and he may be reached at (918)-759-4142.

Intertribal Monitoring Association meeting

LAWTON — The Intertribal Monitoring Association will be holding a "Listening Conference" on Tribal & Individual Trust Funds and Assets Issues hosted by Comanche Nation.

The conference will be held March 21-22, beginning at 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

It will be held at the Comanche Nation Complex, eight miles north of Lawton.

OST and BIA staff will participate in the meeting and be on-site to meet privately with individuals regarding their IIM accounts.

Register with Fred Nahwooksy at (405) 216-3004 or (580) 492-3745. No registration fee required to attend.

For more information visit www.itmatrustfunds.org.

Upcoming Gouge Reunion

HENRYETTA — The Gouge family is planning a reunion in October. The Gouge family is asking all family members to please notify them. The next scheduled meeting and potluck dinner will be on Mar. 19 at 2 p.m. The dinner will be held at the Tiger Mountain Ranch, seven miles east of Henryetta on I-40. For more information call Nancy (Gouge) Deere at (918) 756-4272.

Head Start accepting applications

CHECOTAH — Checotah head start is currently accepting applications for enrollment. You will need the following items turned in with your application: birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income, and if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card. Your child will also need a dental record and physical completed. All ethnic races may apply.

Creek Nation Head Start offers full

Creek Nation 4-H Omnibox Trip

OKMULGEE — Eight Creek Nation 4-H members attended the 4-H Omnibox camp on Feb. 3. The Omnibox is a hands-on, science and technology, based museum. The museum contains interactive displays demonstrating basic principles of physics, aerospace engineering, and scientific principals. Actual space capsules, rocket engines, historical trains, and aircraft from every era of air travel are on display. A special CSI (crime scene investigation) type activity was the focus for the overnight pro-

gram. The campers had to solve the theft of a snake using modern scientific methods. Fingerprint analysis, DNA, microscopic fiber analysis, and footprint comparisons, were some of the tools used to solve the crime.

Creek youth crime investigators were Alexander and Darren Fields, Robin and Dylan Hicks, Nick Tiger, Logan Weeks, Phillip Frye and Makayla Blackbear. For more information on Creek Nation 4-H and upcoming programs, contact Creek Nation 4-H Coordinator, Rick Clovis at (918)-759-4142.



Okmulgee County High School Students Awarded Concurrent Fee and Book Scholarship

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Education Task Force celebrated the success of the Fee and Book Scholarship program for high school concurrent students by treating them to a pizza party.

Over \$9,000.00 was provided to Okmulgee County high school students concurrently enrolled at OSU-Okmulgee to help pay for their books and fees associated with taking the college level classes for the fall and spring classes. Muscogee Creek Nation, Henryetta First National Bank, American Exchange Bank, Henryetta Ford and East Central Electric joined forces and participated in the unique community scholarship program.

A recent change in concurrent enrollment rules by the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education allowed OSU-Okmulgee to offer tuition waivers to qualified high school students concurrently enrolled. As a result, OSU-Okmulgee teamed up with the Okmulgee County Workforce Education Task Force and Muscogee (Creek) Nation to underwrite scholarships to cover the cost of tuition, books and fees for the concurrent students.

Tuition waivers were extended to all high school concurrent students by OSU-Okmulgee. Applications were available for all concurrent students to apply for the fee and book scholarship.

According to Danna Minnick, Manager of Employment & Training, the tribe provided fee and book scholarships to any Native American high school student who qualified with a national recognized tribal identification and completed the scholarship application and process. All other students completing the fee and book scholarship application competed for the private dollars that were raised.



Concurrent enrollment gives high school students an opportunity to earn high school and college credits at the same time and complete a number of college courses by the time they earn their high school diploma. The tuition waiver combined with the fee and book scholarship afforded many more local students to take advantage of this opportunity. Many local families are hard pressed to provide the funding for concurrent enrollment. With the tuition waived by OSU-Okmulgee, fees and books for one class can still cost upwards of \$180.00.

The mission of the Okmulgee County Education Task Force is to advance the quality of life and increase the educational competency level by increasing the number of high school students concurrently enrolled at OSU-Okmulgee. It is documented that high school students who also take classes at college are much more likely to earn a college degree than students who do not take advanced courses while in high school. This statistic related directly to higher wage level opportunities for those completing higher education degrees.

The Education Task Force does not plan to stop here. Committee members are already working toward raising funds to provide all concurrent enrolled students a fee and book scholarship for 2006-2007 school year. Jeff Speligen of Henryetta Ford said it best when he contributed to the scholarship program, "This is an opportunity for business to be good corporate citizens and increase the quality of life in the community. When business leaders sponsor scholarships, they give students the opportunity to be concurrently enrolled at OSU-Okmulgee and be better prepared to enter college after high school graduation." The same can be said of individuals that believe in the growth and well being of Okmulgee County.

For more information about the Okmulgee Fee and Book Scholarship program, contact the Okmulgee Workforce Center at (918) 756-5791.

College of the Muscogee Nation Significant Achievements *By Dr. James King*

OKMULGEE — In October, 2003 the Principal Chief met with the President of Oklahoma State University to discuss the viability of a Muscogee Nation Tribal College. Both concurred that the Nation and the university could collaborate and develop a model tribal institution of higher education. Their agreement has resulted in several milestones of development for the College of the Muscogee Nation. Although many tasks have been completed, the Regents and the College Administration continue working to establish an institution of excellence. Following is a list of achievements:

A Higher Education Needs Assessment was completed December, 2003.

In June, 2004 Principal Chief A.D. Ellis convened the Tribal College Work Study Group; the group completed the Baseline Analysis for the Tribal College Work Statements Report.

The National Council expressed their commitment to the Tribal College by appropriating in 2004 funding for the Board of Regents, Technical Assistance, and Start up costs.

Offices of the Tribal College were opened at OSU- Okmulgee, June, 2004.

The first full time employee of the Tribal College was hired October, 2004.

The first Tribal College classes were offered during the fall semester 2004; 2 classes were offered, Beginning Muscogee Creek Language and Native American History with a total enrollment of 27 students.

All 19 Tribal College classes offered during fall 2004, spring 2005, summer 2005 and fall 2005 were taught by Muscogee Creek instructors. Instructors were evaluated by students in each class.

Orientation was provided to Tribal College adjunct faculty in December 2004.

In the Fall semester of 2004 the Tribal College and OSU- Oklahoma City collaborated on an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Police Science for Muscogee Creek Lighthorse officers (law enforcement).

In January, 2005 the first Tribal College classes to be taught in tribal facilities were for the Lighthorse (law enforcement officers). Muscogee Creek instructors for the classes, both have Masters Degrees in counseling and extensive teaching experience.

The first regular scheduled Tribal College Board of Regents meeting was held February, 2005. Ramona Mason was elected Chair; Dr. Blue Clark, Vice- Chair; Sharon Mouss, Secretary, other members are Robert Bible and Pandee Ramirez. They named an interim President.

At the March, 2005 Regents meeting, the name College of the Muscogee

Nation was submitted by the Regents to the Muscogee Nation Executive Branch which was then approved through legislation of the National Council.

In March, 2005 the Regents Chair and one member attended the Higher Learning Commission Annual Conference in Chicago, Ill. to obtain information about the process of accreditation.

In May, 2005 legal counsel was retained for the tribal college.

In May, 2005 the staff for the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education provided training to the Tribal College Regents. Dr. Debra Stuart coordinated the training.

In June, 2005 the Regents Chair and one member attended a meeting of all tribal post secondary institutions at the State Regents office in Oklahoma City.

A tribal college forum was held July, 2005 featuring Dr. Raymond Fogelson as the principal speaker. The main topic was Southeastern American Indians.

The College of the Muscogee Nation becomes a line item in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Annual Comprehensive Budget. Funding for the first full year was 2005-2006.

The total enrollment for tribal college courses was Fall 2004- 27; Spring 2005- 85; Summer 2005-16; Fall 2005- 55 for a grand total of 183.

Courses that have been offered include Muscogee Creek Language: Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced; Federal Indian Law; Native American History, Tribal Court Systems; American Indian Leadership; Crisis Intervention; and Personal Trainer Certification.

Dr. Myra Starr- Alexander was employed as the President in mid-August, 2005.

A student registration system was purchased and installed in August, 2005. The Chair of the Regents and tribal college staff are being oriented and trained for operational processes.

In September, 2005 the College of the Muscogee Nation Regents Chair and President attended the statewide meeting at UCO in Edmond to discuss curriculum articulation with other state institutions of higher education.

In September, 2005 the Regents Secretary completed the State Regents Board Training.

The Regents unanimously supported offering an Associate Degree in Gaming at the October, 2005 meeting. A letter of intent by the Chair of the Regents has been submitted to the Regents for Higher Education. Other associate degrees being considered include Human Services, Muscogee Language, Muscogee Studies and Tribal Administration.

Free College Courses Available for Muskogee Citizens

WETUMKA — Haskell Indian Nations University is entering into its second year of online classes offered to Muscogee Nation tribal members. Our online program has proven to benefit many Natives in rural America. Through a cooperative agreement with Wes Watkins Technology Center located in Wetumka, we have begun a pilot program to offer several college accredited courses to enrolled tribal members. It is now time for fall 2006 pre-enrollment and there are plenty of spaces available. The Muscogee Nation National Council approved complete funding of Haskell online courses and textbooks. These classes will be attended at the Wes Watkins site. We have tentatively scheduled the following courses for the spring semester:

HINU Distance Education Fall 2006

Course ID SEC	Credit	Title	Days	Time
AIS334	3	Amer. Indian Lit. in Translation	MW	11:10 12:25
BUS232	3	Business Technical Writing		Correspondence only
MTH100	5	Intermediate Algebra	M/W/F	1:10 2:00
MTH101	3	College Algebra	T/TH	1:00 2:15
	5	Muscogee Language I	MW	4:30 6:50

More courses will be available soon; the **deadline for fall applications is April 30th**. The applications can be obtained by calling the admissions office and requesting a packet by mail or by downloading online at the university website. We will announce new classes through the MCN newspaper next month. For more information contact Nathan Anderson: (785) 832-6679; e-mail: n-anderson@haskell.edu Haskell Admissions: (785) 749-8454 or Haskell Website: www.haskell.edu

New Program for Holdenville Public School

HOLDENVILLE — La-ne Lvmhe is a new program for Holdenville Public Schools that is designed to help improve grades of the JOM students in grades 4-12. At the end of each nine weeks, the students that obtain an A average receive a \$25 gift card and students



Holdenville High school



Holdenville Elementary school

that obtain a B average receive a \$10 gift card to Wal-Mart. La-ne Lvmhe is a pilot program and is sponsored by the Holdenville Indian Community Center.



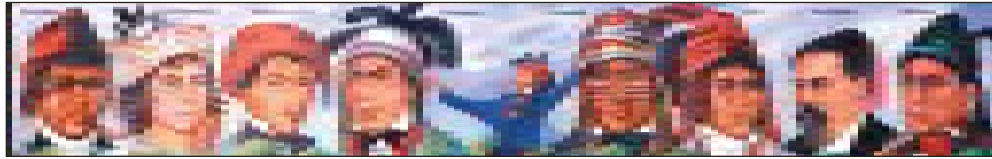
Barnett spotlights on upcoming Senior trips



Creek Filmmaker enjoys media success



March Madness stronger than ever in third year



Section B, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

March 2006

National Indian Monument Museum News

•NIMI Has a New DVD

Architect Robert Johnson and Skyline Ink have just finished an animated "fly-over" of the American Indian Cultural Center. This DVD lets you see the Center as if in a helicopter. Fly down the Arkansas River and over the Cultural Center on a beautiful, sunny day! You can request this DVD along with information about the center by contacting Agnes Perryman, Director of Development at agnes@indianmonument.org or (918) 838-3875.

•Tulsa Indian Cultural Preservation Project

The National Indian Monument & Institute, Inc. is developing a comprehensive multi-media directory of all American Indian artists in Oklahoma. This includes artists, storytellers, chefs, musicians, entertainers, scholars, athletes, historians, or native language speakers. The development of the directory will also help create working collaborations between the Oklahoma Indian tribes,

American Indian artists, performers, living historical figures, American Indian education organizations, and the American Indian Cultural Center.

The directory will be used for booking American Indians for teaching classes or workshops, performing, demonstrating, and honoring. If you would like to be included in this directory, please fill out the form to the right. For more information or question, send an e-mail at agnes@nimi.us.

•Native American Veterans Memorial Wall

NIMI is currently organizing awareness and support for a Native American Veterans Memorial Wall. This monument will be on the grounds of the new NIMI facility. We are asking Veterans organizations and veterans to discuss the details for the monument. Their opinion is greatly needed and respected. We are asking Veterans to please contact NIMI or the Program Coordinator, Chris Hill at chris@nimi.us.

Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair

NORMAN — The 4th Annual Oklahoma Native American Youth Language Fair is being held at the Sam Noble Oklahoma Museum of Natural History at the University of Oklahoma on March 23 and 24. This year's theme is "Speak in Beauty."

The Language Fair has various divisions of competition. There will be a poster art on a language theme, spoken language presentation, language presentation with song/dance, language film, video and multi-media, book/literature and language advocacy essay contests.

Last year, over 800 students and 16 different tribes across the United States attended. Some of the tribes that attended were: Kiowa, Choctaw, Cheyenne, Comanche, Muscogee (Creek), Cherokee, Osage, Zuni, Caddo, Pawnee, Ojibwa and Ponca.

The Youth Language Fair gives the students a goal to work towards and is a great opportunity for students to show off their developing language skills in a fun and supportive environment.

"The fair provides a wonderful atmosphere of sharing and support for both the students and the teachers who participate," said language fair coordinator Mary Linn, curator of Native American Languages at the museum. "From the beginning the fair has been about encouraging the study of Native languages and making it fun. The growth we have seen in our numbers over just four years seems to say that we have succeeded in that. The students have a great time and meet others from across the region who are also interested in studying Native languages."

Native artists, authors, elders and language teachers from several different tribes will judge the various categories. Strict accuracy in the language is not essential. Rather, the performances will be evaluated on how much the Native language is used, the spirit of the performance itself, and effort.

For more information, contact the Native American Languages department at (405) 325-7588 or e-mail Warren Queton at aye_china@ou.edu.

Native American History Series: Civil War Battles in Indian Territory by Patrick E. Moore

Civil War military action began in the eastern United States during the month of April 1861, however there was not a battle in Indian Territory until November of that year.

Opothleyahola, Creek leader and Union sympathizer, had gathered approximately 7,000 Creeks and Seminoles on the banks of the Deep Fork River. Concerned about Opothleyahola's Union sympathies 1,400 Indian Territory Confederate troops, consisting of Choctaw, Seminole and Chickasaw soldiers plus one company of Texas Cavalry under the command of Colonel Chilly McIntosh moved into the area occupied by Opothleyahola and his followers early in November 1861.



Opothleyahola had remained true to the treaty between the United States of America and The Creek Nation. He had written new President Abraham Lincoln requesting the assistance of federal troops and questioning why the President had ordered the United States Army to abandon the Creeks in Indian Territory after promising by treaty to protect them from outsiders for ever. President Lincoln did not reply and Confederate soldiers were advancing onto Creek lands from the east and south.

Opothleyahola's scouts reported this Confederate movement and the old leader was able to lead his followers out of danger to the vicinity of Round Mountain. Confederate scouts soon discovered Opothleyahola's new camp and on November 19, 1861 the first battle of the Civil War in Indian Territory was engaged. The Battle of Round Mountain resulted in defeat for the Confederate forces and Opothleyahola moved his camp to Bird Creek a location much easier to defend due to the topography. The Confederate forces regrouped

and were joined by Colonel John Drew in command of a Cherokee Regiment and on December 9, 1861 they attacked again only to be repulsed during the heat of battle when the Cherokee Regiment deserted and thus the second Civil War battle in Indian Territory resulted in another loss by the Confederate Forces. Confederate troops reorganized at Fort Gibson while Opothleyahola moved further north in The Creek Nation seeking safety for his men, women and children.

Confederate scouts again found Opothleyahola and his followers near the Cherokee Outlet encamped at Chustenalah and on Christmas Day 1861 Confederate troops stormed the camp and overwhelmingly defeated Opothleyahola's army all of whom had run out of ammunition and supplies. Those lucky enough to escape into the timber were without all of their personal belongings except the clothes on their back and items they could carry.

Christmas night a snow storm of near blizzard proportion descended upon eastern Indian Territory creating unbelievable hardship for Opothleyahola's followers. Finally over 5,000 Creeks and approximately 1,000 Seminoles under the leadership of Opothleyahola reached Kansas where all the able bodied men immediately joined the United States Army and returned to Indian Territory as the First and Second Union Indian Brigades intent on avenging their previous losses.

During this same time frame Albert Pike returned to Indian Territory after being commissioned as a Confederate Brigadier General due to his recruitment success among the Five Civilized Tribes, he negotiated Treaties with some members of the Five Civilized Tribes which resulted in some military support for the Confederate States of America in Indian Territory.

Confederate General Pike's first assignment in command of these recruited Indian Regiments was to build a fort near Muskogee. Pike named the new military post Fort Davis to honor the Confederate President Jefferson Davis. Fort Davis was to be the Indian

Territory command post and general supply depot for all Confederate Indian Regiments in eastern Indian Territory.

During March 1862 a Union Army under the command of General Samuel Curtis attacked Confederate forces commanded by General Sterling Price in southern Missouri pushing the Confederates back into northern Arkansas. When this happened the Confederate command ordered General Pike to enter Arkansas with Indian troops to support General Price.

This March 1862 Confederate order was in violation of each and every Five Civilized Tribes' Treaty with the Confederate States of America, because each treaty stated no Indian Regiment would fight outside of the boundaries of The Indian Territory. In spite of this treaty language, General Pike in command of two Cherokee Regiments went to the aid of General Price and the battle began at Elkhorn Tavern on March 6, 1862 and raged on for two full days.

Colonel Stan Watie's Cherokee Mounted Rifles were the only Confederate force to win a battle during the two day campaign when they captured a Union artillery position. Colonel Watie held this position while all other Confederate forces retreated across the border into The Indian Territory where they were joined by Colonel Chilly McIntosh's Creek Regiment and Colonel Cooper's Choctaw forces that protected their flank while they retreated to safety of Fort Davis.

The defeat in Arkansas inflicted such a loss of men and materials on the Confederacy that they were never able to support the war effort in Indian Territory for the balance of the Civil War and the Five Civilized Tribes were basically on their own militarily for the rest of the war.

From 1862 until June of 1865 military operations in Indian Territory were conducted in a guerilla war fashion. Outlaw gangs of soldiers, deserters and criminals based their so called military operations somewhere in The Indian Territory.

Colonel William Quantrill, a commissioned Confederate officer, waged his

own form of war looting both Union and Confederate towns. His command is infamous for its attack and destruction of Lawrence, Kansas. From time to time Quantrill conducted raids against citizens of the Five Civilized Tribes. This criminal element took full advantage of the Civil War by stealing cattle and horses from Indian ranchers all across The Indian Territory.

Stan Watie, who was also the Chief of the Cherokees, was the only Confederate commander in Indian Territory to follow the rules of war. Watie only pursued military operations against military targets throughout the balance of the war.

The Confederate War Department promoted Colonel Stan Watie to the rank of Brigadier General early in 1864 and he was placed in command of Indian Territory military operations for the Confederacy. General Watie was the last Confederate General to surrender doing so on June 19, 1865 some 71 days after General Robert E. Lee Surrendered to General Ulysses Grant at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865.

The members of the Cherokee, Creek and Seminole Nations suffered heavier losses than any other people in the United States due to the internal tribal strife and overall destruction occasioned by large scale warfare conducted on their own property and sometimes in their backyards.

The Creek Nation was punished after the Civil war and forced to give up title to their western Indian Territory lands. Southern states who seceded from the Union did not suffer a similar punishment and the pre Civil War demand for more Indian land was partially satisfied. Indian Nations from northern states were then moved onto surrendered Creek Nation lands in Indian Territory to satisfy political promises made by Abraham Lincoln during his campaign for President of the United States. This land grab by the United States revealed the true reason for Lincoln's failure to help Opothleyahola and was but another of the numerous unilateral Indian treaty promises made and broken at the whim of the United States.

UPCOMING SENIOR TRIPS

by Jackson Barnett, Senior Services Manager

For more information or to submit your name(s) for these events contact:

Jackson Barnett
Senior Services Manager
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
(918) 732-7723

March 17th & 18th
Wichita, Kansas

The Creek Seniors chosen for this trip will be will leaving on March 17th at 8:00 a.m. They will depart from the Complex (westside).



**Mid America
All Indian Center**



**"Treasures of the World"
Museum**

We will be taking seventeen seniors on this trip. Please include phone numbers for contact purposes.

Tips from AARP (American Association of Retired Persons)

Foods To Fight Disease

When it comes to food, we can't ignore the facts — or the science. You need a healthy diet for a healthy life. Research shows a healthy diet could help or prevent a number of health problems, including cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and obesity. And that number keeps growing as researchers learn more about how nutrition affects your health.

What You Should Know

Adopting a disease-fighting diet is easier than you think. When you shop, choose fruits, vegetables, beans, and whole grains, such as brown rice and whole-wheat bread. Avoid foods high in sugar and fat. Here are some tips for arming yourself against disease with good-for-you foods:

Follow the Food Guide Pyramid

This guide tells you what foods to include in your diet each day and in what portions. It shows you how to have a balanced diet by eating foods from all the basic food groups:

- milk, yogurt and cheese (two to three servings; one cup of milk or yogurt would be one serving)
- meat, poultry, fish, dry beans, eggs, and nuts (two to three servings; one serving would be two eggs, ½ cup of tuna fish, or about ½ of a skinless, cooked chicken breast)
- fruit (two to four servings; one serving would be a medium-sized apple or banana, ½ cup of canned fruit, or ¼ cup of dried fruit)
- vegetable (three to five servings; one serving would be ½ cup of raw or cooked vegetables or one cup of raw, leafy vegetables, such as spinach or lettuce)
- bread, cereal, rice, and pasta (six to 11 servings; a slice of bread, ½ bagel or English muffin, or ½ cup of pasta would be a serving)

Think color

When it comes to fruit and vegetables, eat lots of deep-colored produce. Oranges and dark berries, like blueberries and cranberries, are especially rich in natural plant chemicals that can protect you against diseases like cancer and heart disease, according to the American Dietetic Association. Orange and dark green vegetables, such as carrots, sweet potatoes, and spinach are also rich in these plant chemicals.

Remember fiber

Eating lots of fruits and vegetables will give your body extra water and fiber, which will help keep your digestive tract clean and healthy. Beans, bran, whole-grain breads and brown rice, and high-fiber cereals are also good sources of fiber.

Make good bacteria your friend

Fermented foods like yogurt are especially good for you as you get older because they contain "good" bacteria that keep your digestive tract healthy. Check food labels for these bacteria. They will say "contains active cultures." The more cultures listed, the healthier the food. The good bacteria in these foods also fight the bad bacteria that can enter your body through spoiled food and make you sick.

Eat fatty fish

Your body needs some fats to stay healthy, and the fats found in fish like salmon and tuna are good for your heart. Fish also provides a rich source of protein without the large amount of unhealthy fat you get from red meat.

Late April, 2006 Albuquerque, New Mexico "Gathering of Nations"

Deadline for submitting names for possible selection is

Friday, April 7th, 5:00p.m.

The number of participants will be selected by random draw on Monday, April 10th. Please include a phone number for contact purpose.

Mr. Barnett is requesting that those having taken part in trips to Washington, D.C., Macon Georgia, or Cleveland Tennessee, not submit their names for consideration. He hopes to take those who have not had the opportunity to travel on any senior program sponsored trip.

Branson, Missouri "Welcome Home" Ceremony for Vietnam Veterans

The dates and itinerary have not been finalized yet. This letter is to inform our veterans to keep this ceremony in mind. I will be sending out the details as the weeks and time draw near.

The plan is for a senior services program sponsored trip to participate in this occasion. I will be able to take a total of nineteen veterans. Any Mvskoke Veteran 55 years and older will be invited to submit his or her name for possible selection.

New Tradition Clinic
Dr. Lois Beard, DO
Finally! Hope for Diabetes
If you have had Diabetes for 7-10 years, come into our clinic for preventive foot care therapy once a month.
Diabetic Footcare Specialty Clinic
2121 S. 125th E. Ave., Suite 103 - Tulsa, OK 74129
for Appointments call: 918-439-3060

Try soy

Eating about one to two ounces of soy protein daily can help lower cholesterol and unhealthy fat in your diet and protect you from heart disease. You can find many different soy products, which come from soybeans, in your food store. The most popular are tofu, soy milk (in different flavors), soy burgers and hot dogs, soy ice cream, soy nut butter, and soy flour.

Drink plenty of water

To stay healthy, drink at least eight glasses of water daily. Pay special attention to drinking enough because your thirst decision dulls with age, and remember that if you're thirsty, you're already dehydrated.

Following a healthy diet, along with regular exercise, will prevent you from gaining weight, which is important for good health. Losing 10 percent of your body weight, for instance, could be enough to lower your cholesterol. Choose healthy foods for a longer and healthier life!

Information derived from www.aarp.org/health/staying_healthy.

Church Activities

wild onion dinners

Mary Lee Clark United Methodist Church
DEL CITY — Mary Lee Clark United Methodist Church will be having their Wild Onion Dinner on March 18 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m.
The church is located at 1100 Howard Drive.
For more information, contact (405) 740-4662 or (405) 672-6420.

Concharity Church
BIXBY — Concharity Church will be having their Wild Onion Dinner on March 25 from 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.
For more information, call (918) 366-8450.

Church Activities

Revivals

Grave Creek Baptist Church
HITCHITA — Grave Creek Baptist Church will be having their revival on April 24 through 28 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly.
For more information, call (918) 752-0980.

Church Activities

Easter

Concharity Church
BIXBY — Concharity Church will be having their Easter services on April 16. Morning services will begin at 11 a.m.

Grave Creek Baptist Church
HITCHITA — Grave Creek Baptist Church will be having their Easter services on April 16. Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. and morning services will start at 11 a.m.
For more information, call (918) 752-0980.

Honey Creek Methodist Church
WILSON — Honey Creek Methodist Church will be having their Easter services on April 16. Morning services will begin at 11 a.m.

Church Activities

Randall Indian Baptist Church
WILSON — Randall Indian Baptist Church will be having a benefit food sale on March 25 beginning at 11 a.m.
The menu consists of: Indian Tacos, Beans & Fry bread, Chicken & Dumpings, Salt Meat, Hamburgers, Sofke, Pies and Cakes.
The church is located one mile south and one mile west of Wilson School.

Women's Conference
WEATHERFORD — The Western Oklahoma Indian Baptist Women's Conference will be held Apr. 7 and 8 at the Family Life Center, First Baptist Church. The church is located at 1510 East Davis Road.
Bible study presenters will be Charlene Pickup, Madeline Kervin, Dara Thorpe and Beverly Watson. Music leaders are Delana Deere and Kelli Komahchee.
This year's conference theme is "How does Christian Values apply to home, work and church."
The conference will start Friday at 6 p.m. with registration, snacks and a mini concert. Saturday morning will begin at 8:30 a.m. with bible study, breakout sessions, lunch, crafts and will end at 3:30 p.m. All ladies of all ages are invited to attend. No child care will be provided.
For more information, contact Kathy Deere at (405) 447-1247 or (405) 816-7874 after 8 p.m. or e-mail at absnteshw52@yahoo.com.

Grave Creek Baptist Church
OKMULGEE — Grave Creek Baptist Church will be having a garage sale and Indian Taco sale on April 16 at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center. The garage sale begins at 9 a.m.
For more information, call (918) 752-0980.

Oklahoma United Methodists respond to wildfires

by United Methodist News Service

OKLAHOMA CITY — The readiness to help has hurdled faith lines in the response to the wildfires crisscrossing Oklahoma.

The response of Oklahoma Annual Conference churches at Davis and Seminole as well as by the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference provides insight into what it means to be good neighbors in a time of danger and extreme need.

The chain of fires has killed two people, destroyed 250 homes and consumed more than 400,000 acres since Dec. 26, and wildfires also have raged in Texas and New Mexico.

Seminole and its surrounding areas were devastated by major wildfires that have been sweeping across the state since Christmas. Interfaith Social Ministries is providing help to the victims. The alliance's primary partners are Baptist, United Methodist and Catholic.

"Most of the work that's done here is the community working together," said Gary Wilburn, pastor of Seminole United Methodist Church. "I went to the pastor of First Baptist and said, 'Do you realize

what it would do for the community to see you and me working together?' We had already started doing that when the fires came."

"After the fires, Lions International donated \$7,000 to be distributed as \$150 vouchers for clothing, food, or medicine through three local Lions clubs," Wilburn said. Seminole United Methodist Church members also volunteer on the board of the local food bank.

"We have not had a home lost among our church members, but we have had several of our ranchers who lost their pastures and their hay, and one lost some vehicles. Some animals died in the fires or had to be put down," Wilburn said.

The Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference's disaster response program has been helping two families recover after wildfires devastated their lives the day after Christmas, said the Rev. David Wilson, conference superintendent.

The Rev. Kelly Tiger, 69, pastor of Hilltop Indian Presbyterian Church in Wewoka and a well-known personality in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Con-

Pastor's Corner

Wesley Berry, Crosstown Church
Okmulgee, Oklahoma

What does Bible Prophecy say about the Oil Crisis? Well, before we indulge into the word of God concerning end time prophecy, let me make this statement. No book in the whole world dealing with the affairs of mankind has had such a revolutionary influence, such a decisive affect on the development of the western civilization, or such a worldwide effect as the inspired, unadulterated word of God. The book we call the BIBLE...Science books have been revised, History books rewritten, Books of the Law changed and added to, BUT THE BIBLE HAS PAST THE TEST OF TIME. Today it is translated into, 1,660 languages and dialects and still over 2000 years later gives no sign of having exhausted its influence nor have the need to be updated. It was, it is, it will always be THE ANSWER TO EVERY QUESTION OR PROBLEM MANKIND WILL EVER HAVE!

Now that we have established that, let's look into the word of God and see what Bible Prophecy says about the Oil Crisis. God promised the children of Israel that he would give them a *land that floweth with milk and honey*, according to Lev. 20:24. When you break down this scripture in the Hebrew, some amazing insight comes forth. The word *floweth* is the Hebrew word *zawb* (pronounced *zoob*) which means to flow freely without restraint. In the Hebrew it specifically describing a woman's menstrual cycle, with the emphasis on, the inability to stop or control the discharge. The next word we will focus on is *milk*, *milk* is the Hebrew word *chalah* (pronounced *kaw-lawb*) which means the richest or choice part, that makes one fat. The last word is *honey*, *honey* is the Hebrew word *debash* (pronounced *deb-ash*) which means for something to be gummy, sticky, or it's content to be syrup like. Let me put this information into understandable knowledge. According to Lev. 20:24, You will inherit land, that I (God) will give unto you to possess it, a land that floweth, (it's discharge cannot be stopped or controlled by man) with milk (that the content of what is discharged is rich in value and will make you prosperous) and honey (for its substance will be gummy, sticky and syrup like). It doesn't sound to me that God is talking about cows and bees. And, I don't believe it is a stretch of the imagination, to say that, what God is possibly talking about is OIL!

Let's look at some more scriptures, starting with Gen. 49:1, And Jacob called unto his sons, and said, Gather yourselves together, that I may tell you that which shall befall you *in the last days*. Jacob the patriarch calls all of his sons together, for the purpose of focusing their minds on what will become of their families in the last days. I believe Jacob knew the importance of reminding his sons of their lineage and also their inheritance. I want to take a moment away from this article and say to whoever may be reading this, Never forget the importance of reminding your children of their lineage and of their inheritance. Back to the article, Listen to what Jacob says to his sons in Gen. 49:25, Even by the God of thy father, who shall bless thee with blessings of heaven above, *blessings of the deep that lieth under*, blessings of the breasts, and of the womb. Wow, did you get that, *blessings of the deep that lieth under!* The Amplified Bible says it this way, *Blessings lying in the deep beneath*. It sounds to me that God has something in store in the form of a blessing for Israel, something that won't be revealed until *the last days*.

There's still another prophetic promise for Israel found in Deut. 33:19, For they shall suck of the abundance of the seas, and of the treasures hid in the sand. Is it just me or is that an unusual way of receiving a blessing? For Israel to receive this abundance of the sea and the treasure hid in the sand, they have to *suck it up*. This terminology sounds very familiar to the process it takes to produce oil, not to mention the locations of these particular blessings. Is it just coincidence or is God showing us a road map to where these blessings are hid? Remember they're hid until the last days.

In reading Proverbs 13:22 it is amazingly insightful. A good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children (IN THE LAST DAYS). And the wealth of the sinner is laid up for the just. When a person examines the geographical and geological maps of the Middle East, it is astonishing to note that the Dead Sea is the lowest point in that region, in fact it was formed remarkable in the shape of a funnel. It is also something to take into consideration that the lay of the under ground rock formation is such that if for some reason someone would happen to drill and oil well in the Dead Sea and strike oil, the gravitational pull would automatically drain all the other oil fields in that particular region and therefore causing one of the greatest *OIL GUSHERS* known to mankind. You may be asking yourself could this really be? My response to you is this, what else in the end times would cause the nations of the world to want to invade and take control of *LITTLE OL' ISRAEL*.

Be watching for next month's article, OIL CRISIS Part 3, I know you will be blessed. Just remember If God be for you, who in this world can be against you.

You are cordially invited to come and experience the awesome ministry of Dr. Sherlock Bally, March 26th thru March 29th, 7:00 o'clock nightly @ Crosstown Church, 6th and Kern, Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

ference, died after suffering burns sustained when fires broke out near his home in Holdenville. "The blazes destroyed the home, and nothing was saved," Wilson said.

Betty Tiger, a cousin of Kelly Tiger's, lost her home and belongings in the same fire. She is a member of Salt Creek Indian United Methodist Church.

"Our conference has been impacted by the wildfires, especially by the loss of the Rev. Kelly Tiger and the loss of two homes by two of our Methodist Church families," Wilson said. "While Tiger was a Presbyterian minister, he was well-known in the conference, and we are pleased that we can play a role in helping the families get back a sense of normalcy."

Assistance to the families is also coming from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and Seminole Nation of Oklahoma. They are working together to rebuild the houses, and construction has already started on both homes, Wilson said. The conference will furnish the homes and help with other needs that the tribes and the Federal Emergency Management

Agency won't cover. Norean Tiger, Kelly Tiger's wife, is Creek, and Kelly was Creek and Seminole.

"The families lost everything and will be in need of all kinds of items to begin their lives in their new homes," said Phillis McCarty, director of the conference's disaster response program. "We want to help them in any way possible." The disaster response program provided a limited amount of funding immediately after the fires to members to help with immediate needs.

"We are thankful for our disaster response program because it helps serve its purpose in times like these," Wilson said.

The conference has also been assured assistance from the United Methodist Committee on Relief if needed. It "feel(s) good to see that United Methodist officials so far away respond to our needs before we ask," Wilson said. "It is great to feel a part of this connection that is the United Methodist Church."

More work lies ahead for the churches in both the Oklahoma and Oklahoma Indian Missionary conferences.

BIRTHS

Dezmond Lynn Lewis

OKMULGEE — Dezmond Lynn Lewis was born on Jan. 18 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Yolanda Monahwee and Marcus Lewis of Morris.

She weighed 6 pounds and 10 ounces and was 18 1/2 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are JoAnna King and Yommie Monahwee, both of Morris. Paternal grandparents are Lousenda and Keven Pannell of Morris and Marlon and Beth Lewis of Texas.

Maternal great grandparents are Marianne Scott of Morris. Paternal great grandparents are Sam and Pauline Pointer of Tiger Mountain and Sally Lewis of Hoffman.

Dezmond belongs to the Wind clan.



Kelly of Okmulgee.

He has two older sisters, Jonna, age seven and Brianna, age four.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Catelin King

MUSKOGEE — Catelin King was recently crowned as American's Cover Miss Pageant at Muskogee Civic Assembly Center on Jan. 28. She won in the age category newborn to 3.

She is the daughter of Chantell M. King of Muskogee.

Maternal grandparents are Sally Louise and Phillip Dozier of Muskogee, and Stanley W. King, Sr. of Tenkiller Lake.

Great grandparents are Louise and Amos Harjo of Muskogee and Shirley and John Russell of Tenkiller Lake.

Catelin is the great-great granddaughter of the late Emily and Turner Bear, Sr. of Checotah.

She is a member of the bear clan and a descendant of Eufaula Canadian tribal town.



BIRTHDAYS

Sareena Barker

TULSA — Sareena will celebrate her fourth birthday on March 17 with a party at her home with family and friends.

She is the daughter of Christopher Barker and June Barker of Tulsa.

Maternal grandparents are Olan and Carol Wilson of Tulsa. Paternal grandparents are Jocelyn Scales of Tulsa and Richard Barker of Columbus, Ohio.

Sareena has one brother, Christopher and one sister, Breonna Barker.



Chiler B. Edwards

OKMULGEE — Chiler B. Edwards turned two on Feb. 16. He celebrated on Feb. 18 with family and friends at his home with a Blue's Clue's theme.

Special guest aunt Tina Gouge of Toronto, Canada attended.

He is the son of Anne Townsend-Edwards of Okmulgee and Bobby D. Edwards of Anadarko.

Maternal grandmother is Elizabeth Townsend of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Linda Edwards and the late Delos Edwards of Wichita, Kansas.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Sally Spaniard Gouge and Albert Gouge of Hanna.

Chiler is a member of the Deer clan and Weogufkee tribal town.



Hepsey Gilroy

OKMULGEE — The children of Hepsey Gilroy would like to invite family and friends to join them in celebrating her 95th birthday on April 22 from 1 to 4 p.m.

The celebration will take place at the East Central Electric Co-op Community building located 2001 South Wood Drive. A light lunch will be served.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Wanda Morrison at wwmorrison2003@yahoo.com or (505) 795-7299 or Norma Jemerson at msnormas@yahoo.com or (949) 551-1134.

Jonas Thornton Jr.

OKMULGEE — Jonas Thornton Jr. turned one on Feb. 2. He celebrated on Jan. 28 at his home with family and friends.

He is the son of Jonas and Rayna Thornton of Okmulgee.

Maternal grandmother is Ramona Butler of Tulsa. Paternal grandparents are Ruby Roberts and Quinton (Sunny) Neil, both of Okmulgee.

Jonas is the great grandson of Juanita



Arianna Maelyn Osborne

OKEMAH — Arianna Maelyn Osborne was crowned Miss Christmas Queen in the 12 to 23 months category. She also placed first runner-up in the Henryetta Christmas Pageant.

Arianna is the daughter of Gary and Shelley Osborne of Bristow.

Maternal grandparents are Simmer and Sharon Hicks of Okemah. Paternal grandparents are Marilyn Stanfill of Scranton, Alaska.

Great grandparents are the late Joe and Lorene Hicks; Thomas and Ethleen Harjo of Oklahoma City; Bill O'Quinn of Scranton, Alaska and Mary O'Quinn of Eudora, Mississippi.

Arianna belongs to the Okfuskee ceremonial grounds and a member of the Wind clan.



Glenpool JOM

GLENPOOL — The Glenpool JOM 4th and 5th graders recently had the opportunity to learn about "painting with Native Soils" artist Woody Baldwin and guest Carolyn Matthews taught students about fungus that bugs carry and infect trees and soil.

Baldwin also uses infected wood to do his artwork using the lines from the infected trees. Student got to process soil and then paint with the many color of Oklahoma soil. "Student being able to create things with their own hands and learn about their natural environment helps promote self-esteem"



WEDDINGS

Holuby & Martin

EUREKA SPRINGS, Arkansas — Michael Holuby and Lana Martin were united in marriage in Eureka Springs on Feb. 18.

Michael is the son of Sandra Holuby. Lana is the daughter of Chefton and Sandra Martin of Tahlequah.

The couple will reside in Muskogee.



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Creek Filmmaker enjoys media success

"There are many great stories to be told about the Creek Nation and Oklahoma. I hope I can someday bring a few of those to the screen."

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES — Muscogee (Creek) people have certainly enjoyed success in the areas of film and video.

The notoriety of Will Sampson is widely known, but others such as Bob Hicks, Monty Bass, and Salina Jayne, who was featured in the November issue of the *Muscogee Nation News* is further proof.

Another person that certainly deserves the 'Spotlight,' pun intended, is Tom Harjo.

Harjo is a major part of the Hollywood filmmaking machine, having worked on numerous commercial films and television productions for at least two decades. Remember *Titanic*, Harjo was a part of the crew that helped to create an epic.

It's 4:00 a.m. in the morning on the west coast, Los Angeles to be exact, it's 6:00 a.m. here in Oklahoma, but that is still very early. Tom Harjo is getting his daily work out and exercise before he is required to report on the set.

"Currently, I'm the Key Grip on *ER*," says Harjo. "We shoot on the Warner Bros. lot in Burbank. I've been here for five years and I hope to be here for a few more. It's the longest job I've ever had, in the industry or out."

The term 'Key Grip' is a title given to someone who helps produce a film, documentary, or television program in a 'behind the scenes' manner such as lighting, sound, or even some set construction at times. If you are one who sit and watch the credits and listen to the music after a movie is over, chances are you have seen the words 'key grip' scroll by and have seen Tom Harjo's name next to it.

Harjo, as mentioned before, has been in the business of filmmaking for quite a while and he is very good at what he does. In 1997, Harjo was awarded the 'Outstanding Technical Achievement in the Technical Arts by First Americans in the Arts', an award he is deservedly quite proud of.

Back to Harjo's working days, he is up very early and the usual glamor days that people tend to associate with movie making isn't what it is really all about. "Monday through Friday I get up at 4:00 a.m. to go to the gym before work," says Harjo. "My call time, the time I need to show up for work, is usually 7:00 a.m. Six Hours later is an hour lunch break. And we generally finish our day six hours after that. Some days more, some days less. It all depends on how much work is scheduled for that day. But that's on *ER*. I've worked regular 14 to 16 hour days on other shows. And if the show is on-location we usually work 6 day weeks. The best thing and the worst thing about the movie business is that no two days are ever the same."

But Harjo would not have it any other way, filmmaking, pictures, and every other facet with it, has always been in his blood even when he was a young Creek boy growing up in Tulsa, Oklahoma. "I've always been interested in photography. As a child I collected Brownie Box cameras I found at garage sales. My dad would also let me use his 35mm camera and I made 8mm movies with our family's camera," says Harjo.

The budding Creek artist was a bit of a video maverick as he got a little older, trying his hand at a visual form that the general public would embrace later. "In high school my friends and I made 16mm films," remembers Harjo.

"We also had access to a brand new technology for the 1970's, a portable video camera! We would invade

transmitter engineer."

By now Harjo was really involved with his craft and knew how to

show business without knowing a little bit about the show. Harjo points to the movie *Committed* as his opportunity



Filmmaker and Muscogee (Creek) citizen Tom Harjo on the set of *ER*, taking a well deserved break before shooting resumes.

a U-Tote-Ums or a Winchell's and make our 70's 'Punk'd' videos."

By now, the film bug had taken a bite out of Harjo, and he wanted to continue on and learn more about this craft.

"I believe any good Native actor or actress can transcend the stereotype. The key is solid training in the craft of acting."

"In my senior year we were required to do an internship at a local business," says Harjo. "I chose to intern in the production photography department of KTEW, now KJRH Channel 2, in Tulsa. There I helped make commercials, once with Mazeppa, aka Gailard Sartain, public service announcements and extended news stories for the station."

Sartain is another Oklahoma local who made it good in Hollywood, having roles in movies such as: *Fried Green Tomatoes*, *The Outsiders*, and *The Buddy Holly Story*.

But Harjo considers time spent with area television newsmen, Jerry Webber, as a time he will always cherish. Webber was a longtime television news anchor at Channel 2. "Once I was lucky enough to go on a shoot with sportscaster Jerry Webber to his hometown and have lunch with his family," says Harjo. "After attending Lake Forest College, class of 80, I found a job as a Studio Camera Operator at KOTV, Channel 6, in Tulsa. I operated a camera during newscasts and for other in-studio productions like the 'Morning Show'. I later moved to the Engineering Department. There I operated the videotape machines, the audio switcher and I worked as the

operate basically every major piece of television equipment from lighting to editing to directing a newscast, Harjo was not only skilled, but was qualified to teach as well.

It would not be too long before he would have his chance to mentor. "With this experience, I moved on to a job with the Kiamichi Area Vo-Tech in McAlester, Oklahoma," recalls Harjo. "There I was a Video Producer for a Title IV-A Indian Education program. I produced, directed, photographed, edited and narrated videos about American Indians for Indian children. The videos taught Indian children about Indians. The program was open to all Indian children regardless of blood quantum. We had a few 1/164ths."

As mentioned earlier, Muscogee (Creek) people have certainly enjoyed their success in the areas of film and video, and it wouldn't be too long for Harjo, at this point in his life to come in contact with another Muscogee (Creek) who was already out on the west coast making his mark in the film world. "During this time I was fortunate to meet Creek tribal member, Bob Hicks," says Harjo. "He had just graduated from the American Film Institute, where he was the first American Indian student and he suggested that I apply there." Now Harjo had heard about the American Film Institute (AFI) and decided it was the right move, Harjo would be a natural for the major move. "My year at AFI was one of best in my life. I was exposed to the film business by actively participating in it. I went as a Cinematography Fellow," says Harjo.

After graduating from AFI, Harjo set out to make his mark in the film business, he had earned his SAG (screen actors guild) card which made him eligible to work on union-based film productions. That was 1980, Harjo is celebrating 26 years in the filmmaking business and continues to make his talent known, not only behind the camera, but Harjo is also known to do a little acting as well. After all, you cannot be involved with

to shine in front of the lens. Not only the chance to shine, but to actually portray a part that wasn't exactly a Native American role. "In *Committed*, I play a Mexican in it, as well. I have my own chapter button on the DVD," says Harjo.

Yes, a Native American playing the part of a Mexican, and why not. Movies of the past certainly show us where Italians, Asians, and Hispanics have played the part of Native Americans as well. In fact, it was the hope of Will Sampson to portray an Italian on the big screen someday. Of course, he never got his wish, but Harjo has seen other Native Americans reach that goal, and be successful at it. "Wes Studi has done it," says Harjo when pointing to Native Actors playing non-traditional roles. "Graham Greene has done it. I believe any good Native actor or actress can transcend the stereotype. The key is solid training in the craft of acting."

And it is the craft of acting, the craft of lighting, sound engineering and every other facet that Harjo takes very seriously when approaching filmmaking. Harjo wouldn't point fingers exactly, but mentions a bad project that he has worked on. "The worst is the one that was poorly planned and thus poorly executed," says Harjo, but also points to an ironic twist to these type of films. "But it's also the one that usually supplies the best stories. The best film is always the one you are currently working on. It's the one that's paying the bills."

Harjo still has a few more goals to reach in the movie making business, "I'm planning to shoot a documentary during my *ER* hiatus," he says with a possible return to Oklahoma and to produce a documentary here. "I get back to Oklahoma as much as I can but it's never enough," Harjo confides. "There are many great stories to be told about the Creek Nation and Oklahoma. I hope I can someday bring a few of those to the screen."

With his skill and talent, odds are that the Creek filmmaker will certainly do it.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

A.D. ELLIS, in his official capacity as)
Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek))
Nation,)) Case No. SC-05-03/SC-05-05
Plaintiff,)
V.)
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION)
NATIONAL COUNCIL,)
Defendant.)

PER CURIAM
CHIEF JUSTICE LARRY OLIVER, VICE CHIEF JUSTICE DENETTE MOUSER, JUSTICE AMOS
McNAC, JUSTICE GEORGE ALMERIGI AND JUSTICE HOUSTON SHIRLEY.
Attorneys for Plaintiff: Rod Wiener
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Tulsa, Oklahoma

Attorney for Defendant: Geoffrey Standing Bear
Attorney at Law
Post Office Box 1049
Pawhuska, Oklahoma 74056

OPINION

Myskolkvike Ftvecko Cuko Hyhvat vkerieckv hyvakot okety vnyke vshvk hakaten acackayen momen entevvety, hvym Myskoke Eshv the telike vshvk empyvsky.

The above captioned consolidated cases came on for hearing on the 6th day of January, 2006. Plaintiff appeared in person and by his attorneys, Rod W. Wiener and Timothy S. Posey. Defendant appeared through Speaker, Thomas Yahola and by its attorney, Geoffrey Standing Bear.

FINDING OF FACTS

Having heard the testimony and the agreements and stipulations of the parties, and having examined all of the pleadings, the Court finds:

- 1) Plaintiff, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, filed case number SC 2005-03 on June 30, 2005 and filed his amended Petition on August 12, 2005.
- 2) On August 26, 2005 oral argument proceeded on this case on Defendant's Motion to Dismiss this case.
- 3) On August 31, 2005, this Court overruled Defendant's Motion to Dismiss and Ordered the parties to Mediation;
- 4) Following mediation, the Parties effectuated a Settlement Agreement on October 31, 2005 and filed it with the Court on December 7, 2005. The Court did not accept or adopt this Settlement Agreement because this Court believes it does not adequately address constitutional issues before the Court.
- 5) Plaintiff subsequently filed another Petition, case number SC 2005-05, with this Court on December 20, 2005 alleging among other things a breach of the Settlement Agreement;
- 6) On December 22, 2005 the Court consolidated these cases into one action: SC 2005-03 and granted Plaintiff's Temporary Injunction;
- 7) On January 6, 2006, Oral Argument was heard on this case and the parties were Ordered by this Court to re-evaluate the Settlement Agreement submitted to this court on December 7, 2005 and to revisit language in the Settlement Agreement as it was too vague and arbitrary;
- 8) On January 16, 2006, the Parties to this dispute submitted an Agreed Journal Entry of Judgment that this Court believes is grossly inadequate in supplying an ending to this litigation;
- 9) The success of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation lies in the stability, continuity, hospitality, and flexibility of the three branches of government that are charged with leading this Nation;
- 10) The facts and issues presented to the Court conclusively show that the parties have mindsets that further their particular branch's objectives and impede the effective governance of this Nation's citizenry;
- 11) This Court declines to approve the Agreed Journal Entry as submitted by these parties to this Court on January 16, 2006.

Therefore it is the **OPINION** of this Court that:

1. This Court is the proper Court in which to hear this dispute.

This Court has stated previously that:

"when there is a question as to whether the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution has been followed in legislative or executive actions, this Court has jurisdiction to interpret those actions in light of the Nation's Constitution."

Alexander v. Gouge & Huff, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 226 (Jan. 16, 2003)

2. The Office of the Principal Chief is vested with executive powers and the National Council is vested with legislative powers.

This Court is vitally concerned with any ongoing disputes between the Office of the Principal Chief and the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The actions or inactions of the parties to any dispute go to the very core of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the stability of its government, and in doing so, this Court must take action to, in so far as possible under the issues herein presented, describe the powers and limitations of the Legislative and Executive branches.

The central starting point to addressing all of the grievances filed in both SC-05-03 and SC-05-05, appears to rest squarely on the issue of separation of powers. Our jurisprudence in this area is not weak. The very essence of separation of powers is an easy enough concept to grasp: government can best be sustained by dividing the various powers and functions of government among separate and relatively independent governmental entities; no single branch of government is able to exercise complete authority and each is dependent on the other. This autonomy prevents powers from being concentrated in one branch of government, yet, the independence of each helps keep the others from exceeding their powers.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has a long history of practicing separation of powers as is apparent in the teachings of some of the earliest declarations of this Court. This Court, exercising its powers of judicial review in reviewing an enactment of the National Council and the powers of the Nation's three branches stated in 1885:

"The very nature of the resolution is in conflict with the spirit and teachings of the Constitution and Council has not rights or powers to pass and enforce such resolutions. The Court through that, the resolution having passed through the proper channels and received the approval and signature of Gov Perryman [Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief] thereby becoming and assuming a statutory enactment, it would be prudent to suspend proceedings until the requested legal reasons therefor contemplated by resolution is received from Gov Perryman. This was afterward departed from by the Court and ruled that there was no Constitutional or statutory provision authorizing any authority or officer to order a stay of proceedings after a case has been duly docketed and time appointed for its consideration. This was substantiated by the fact that no precedent of this Nation could be cited or found in the records of this or any other Court in the Nation. Motion to proceed with the trial in ignorance of the resolution was granted by the Court which was proceeded with."

Muscogee Nation v. Tiger, 7 Mvs. L. Rep. 8, Volume 10, Page 65, Original Handwritten Volume (October 16, 1885)

Though the term "separation of powers" is not specifically delineated in the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution, this Court stated in *Beaver v. National Council* 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 28 (Muscogee (Creek) 1986), "the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is patterned after the United States Constitution with respect to separation of powers." We further expounded on this notion in *Cox v. Kamp*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 75 (Muscogee (Creek) 1991) saying that "each branch of government has special limitations placed on it" and "there must be a balance of powers." Finally, we also articulated that "the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution intended to incorporate into it the basic parts of the separation of powers between the three branches of government." *Id.*

We noted in *Cox* that the duty of this Court is not to merely give definitions to words within the law, but to determine the intent and scope behind the words. The United States Supreme Court articulated this in *Mistretta v. United States*, 488 U.S. 361 (1989), "we have not hesitated to strike down provisions of law that either accrete to a single branch powers more appropriately diffused among separate branches or that undermine the authority and independence of one or another coordinate branch." *Id.* at 382.

This Court approves and adopts the reasoning of the United States Supreme Court in *Mistretta*. This Court will not hesitate to strike down provisions of the proposed Agreed Journal Entry which the parties submitted to this Court. The Court finds the Agreed Journal Entry as submitted, is insufficient to satisfy a conclusion and peaceful resolution to this litigation. Nor can it assist in preventing future conflicts between the Legislative and Executive branches. The Agreed Journal Entry as presented by the parties is vague and incomplete and we believe it grants powers to one or the other branch that are not found or allowed in the Nation's Constitution.

Often as members of a tribal governing body we must put aside personal agendas, prejudices and biases to work together for the best interest of the Nation. This Court agrees that the parties need to go back and read the plain language of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

It has always been this Court's contention that if the language and words are clear and definite in meaning, the words shall be followed as they were intended. The Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation "must

be strictly construed and interpreted and where the Constitution speaks in plain language with reference to a particular matter, the Court must not place a different meaning on the words." *See: Cox* at 79.

"The Executive Power shall be vested in and shall be known as the Office of the Principal Chief." *Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Article V, § 1(a).* Under the doctrine of separation of powers, the executive branch is the branch charged with implementing, and/or executing the law and running the day-to-day affairs of the government. "All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council..." *Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Article VI, § 2.* Also, under the doctrine of separation of powers, the legislative branch is charged with legislating; making laws by which the citizenry abide and the Nation runs. Article VI, § 7 of the Constitution is of particular interest in this case. Section 7 states "the National Council shall have power (subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States of America) to *legislate on matters subject to limitations...*" (emphasis added).

This Court believes the intent is clear and unambiguous. The Office of the Principal Chief is vested with executive powers and the National Council is vested with legislative powers. The legislative branch does not have the authority to mandate any member of the executive branch to take or refrain from taking any action without due process of law. Likewise, the executive branch does not have the authority to mandate that the legislative branch regulate in areas that are left squarely to that branch in the Constitution.

3. That the proposed Agreed Journal Entry jointly submitted by the parties is insufficient to fully and properly address the issues in dispute in this litigation.

Turning our attention to the Agreed Journal Entry, the parties offered: "In order to set forth with greater specificity the roles and authority of the Principal Chief as chief executive officer of the Executive Branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the National Council as the legislative branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as related to the claims made in this case..." The Court asks the parties- Does the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the Ordinances of this Nation not answer these questions? And is an Agreed Journal Entry sufficient enough a document to "specify the roles" of two of our three branches of government? As to the latter, this Court thinks not and believes the proposed Agreed Journal Entry sets a dangerous precedent for all future relations between the separate but equal branches of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution cannot be infringed upon or expounded on simply by words in a superfluous document disguised as an "agreed order." There are defined procedures in place to amend our Constitution if there are deemed to be inadequacies with the delineated responsibilities of the differing branches. Our Constitution, much like that of the United States Constitution, has long held the utmost respected role in our government. To infringe upon it with an Agreed Journal Entry is an insult to the people of this Nation. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution is the epitome of what makes the Muscogee Nation great; a document that has withstood the test of time, trials and tribulations, forced assimilation, statehood and eventual rebirth. Through it all, this Nation's Constitution with the separation of powers doctrine embodied in it has emerged virtually unscathed in thought and spirit. To allow an Agreed Journal Entry to supercede the Constitution's powers appears to this Court a very unwise leap to make.

Our decision is not without some precedence from our predecessors on the bench, Chief Justice D.A. Carr in an opinion penned in 1884 discussed the constitutionality of a statute prohibiting citizens of the Nation from employing non-citizens as workers within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. In doing so, Chief Justice Carr discussed the Constitution' in the rubric of making decisions that affect the citizenry of the Muscogee people. We find his wisdom profound. Chief Justice Carr stated:

"Referring to Zaus question whether or not an act of the Wallace Commit. [sic] which in effect would prohibit a citizen from employing a non-citizen would be constitutional it is explicit, that in order to arrive at a proper decision on any like question, it is necessary first to arrive as nearly as possible at the posit and purpose of that instrument [constitution] so far as these may seem to embrace and effect the subject in question. In order to accomplish this with a reason of certainty it becomes legitimate to consider some of the circumstances which by a fair deduction may be designated as the operating causes which confined it the origins to this paramount law of our nation. By this method alone can the principles and purposes which operated in bringing about its adoption by the people be discovered... The Muscogee found that the rights of the People of other nations were carefully guarded by a paramount law called a constitution over which neither Chief nor council could pass and which unlike everything the Muscogee had was an effective safeguard to the rights of the people. They discovered that the nation might have [succumbed] as especially many evils already suffered had the rights of the people [not] been properly safeguarded. They discovered that the rights of the people were left open to violations by a reckless council or the usurpation of an ambitious Chief. They discovered that the time might come when an embittered council might assess exorbitant taxes on the industries of the people, together with such the burdens as would hurt the progress of the people. Therefore it has a check upon Chief and Council and "establish justice, and secure it to ourselves and our children the blessings of freedom." They adopted the Constitution...

¹ *Justice Carr was referring to the 1867 Constitution but the present 1979 Constitution incorporates the same fundamental principles of separation of powers and government except that the House of Warriors and the House of Kings have been combined into one legislative body, the National Council.*

Croaker v. Gov., 7 Mvs. L. Rep. 319-320, Original Bound Volume 48, Pages 4-5 (October 15, 1884). This Court cannot overstate the importance of the role of the branches of government to the continued success and viability of this Nation. The roles of the different branches are clearly defined both in the Constitution of the Nation and in its laws, and as we stated *supra*, there are proper procedures in place to amend the Constitution of this Nation, and those procedures should not be assumed by a document proposing to be an Agreed Journal Entry in a lawsuit litigated between the Principal Chief and the National Council.

However, the Court is also mindful of as our role as arbitrator of disputes and there are times that additional clarification to the Constitution meaning is needed. The Court, therefore, feels that clarifications should be made to the party's Agreement without intruding on the inviolability of our Constitution.

A. Executive Branch Powers and Executive Employees

Under the Doctrine of Separation of Powers, the Executive Branch as set out in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution Article V, and further as organized in the laws in Title 16 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, "Executive Branch" shall remain in full force and effect unless duly changed by proper procedures to secure a Constitutional Amendment or by Tribal Resolution. Further, as the head of the Executive Branch, the Principal Chief continues to have the authority to deal with all Executive Branch employment decisions, except over independent agencies as will be discussed *infra*, including but not limited to all appointments as set out in the Constitution of this Nation and any laws that the National Council shall enact. It is also the function of the Executive Branch to continue to deal with its internal employment decisions, excluding those employment decisions over independent agencies (gaming, e.g.).

B. Extraordinary Sessions of the National Council

As one of the specifically enumerated powers in the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution, the Principal Chief may call Extraordinary Sessions of the National Council as set forth in Article V § 4 of the Constitution. With regards to Extraordinary Sessions, it is the order of this Court that the parties shall appear fair and proper procedures and rules that shall be effectuated by the National Council within three (3) working days, or at such other times as the parties agree to after this Order, that will clarify with specificity the rules regarding the Principal Chiefs agenda for Extraordinary Sessions and his submission thereof. These rules and procedures shall enumerate specifically the actions that will take place at an Extraordinary Session including placement of agenda, voting procedures, and any other rule or stipulation the parties agree will help clarify the procedures involved in the Principal Chiefs constitutional power to call an Extraordinary Session.

C. Contracting on behalf of the Nation

Contracting on behalf of the Nation is an integral part of the success, stability and viability of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Each branch of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has the rights and powers consistent with the Constitution and this Court's prior rulings to contract *on behalf of its own branch* for the proper running of day-to-day activities that help the government run efficiently. It is therefore the responsibility of each of the three branches to dutifully fulfill their obligations to the Nation when negotiating and contracting with outside entities on their own behalf.

With regards to contracts on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, it is the order of this Court that delineation of the powers given each branch under the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nations shall be respected and upheld. Therefore, the Principal Chief or his designee shall continue to have the primary responsibility to negotiate, execute and carry out contracts *on behalf of the Nation* with the exceptions limited by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution or by law. Further, the National Council shall continue to authorize, approve and fund contracts on behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation except as limited by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution or by law. The respective branches are admonished that each has its own powers and shall remain faithful to the duties of their respective branches.

D. Subpoena Powers of the National Council

From time to time, the National Council or its subcommittees thereof may need the advice, counsel, or knowledge of an individual not currently in its body of actors or before it. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, allows for the National Council to request individuals to appear before it to answer questions. As currently enacted, the provisions of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, Title 30 § 3-104, 8-101 and 8-102 put serious constraints on individual employees and departments of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who respond to a request of the National Council or subcommittee to testify or give pertinent information on an issue before the National Council or subcommittee. United States case law recognizes the powers of Congress to investigate matters and call witnesses:

There can be no doubt as to the power of Congress, by itself or through its committees, to investigate matters and conditions relating to contemplated legislation. This power, deeply rooted in American and English institutions, is indeed co-extensive with the power to legislate. Without the power to investigate - including of course the authority to compel testimony, either through its own processes or through judicial process - Congress could be seriously handicapped in its efforts to exercise its constitutional function wisely and effectively. (internal cites and footnotes omitted)

Quinn v. U.S., 349 U.S. 155, 75 S. Ct. 668, 99 L. Ed. 964, 51 ALR.2d 1157 (1955).

SEE LEGAL - B7

SAM COOPER

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Sam Cooper were held at Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church on Feb. 25 with Reverends Wallace Gambler, Wilson Hicks, and Kenneth Cooper officiating.

Sam was born April 25, 1915 to Mr. and Mrs. Malley (Smith) Cooper.

He was a Youth Coordinator for Muscogee (Creek) Nation and an avid baseball fan which he enjoyed playing in his younger years. Later, Sam began organizing and coaching baseball teams in and around the Okemah area, until his health forced him to become a spectator of the sport.

Mr. Cooper was preceded in death by his parents.

Survivors include: nine children, Lillian of Midwest City, Roberta of Shawnee, Richard and Ray of Scottsdale, Arizona, Russell, Kelly, and Larry of Mesa, Arizona, Steve of Apache Junction, Arizona, and Sanford of Ft. McDonald Arizona.

Interment was held at the Cooper Family Cemetery.

RICHARD D. ELLIS, SR.

TWIN HILLS — Funeral services for Richard Ellis were held Feb. 28 at Concharty Indian Methodist Church and were conducted by Reverend Newman Frank, Jr. with Mr. Levi On -The-Hill and Mr. K e e p e r Johnson officiating.

Richard was born July 27, 1920 to Doolie and Nellie Ellis.

He enlisted into the U.S. Army in 1942 and retired as Sergeant First Class in 1964 receiving several medals of honor. During his tour of duty he served in England, Sweden, Korea, Japan, and Hawaii.

Mr. Ellis was preceded in death by: his parents; three wives, Mary Jane Ellis, Doris Mae Ellis, and Willie Almo Ellis; one sister, Pandora Parsons; and two brothers, Willie and Jacob Ellis.

Survivors include: three children, Richard Ellis, Jr. of Oklahoma City, Deborah P. Ellis of Tulsa, and Ricky H. Ellis of Twin Hills; four siblings, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Dorothy Meyer, and Lillian Crow, all of Twin Hills, and Nellie Burke of Fort Worth, Texas; several grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and a host of other family and friends.

Interment was at the Fleetwood Bruner Family Cemetery.

LUCILLE (FIELDS) FACTOR

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Lucille Factor were held Feb. 24 at McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel with Mr. A l f r e d Berryhill officiating.

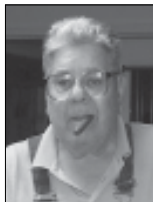
Mrs. Factor was born January 4, 1923 to Tom and K i z z i e (Sugar) Fields and Elijah Haynes.

Lucille was a Ball Brothers Glass employee and a lifetime auxiliary member of the Okmulgee Memorial Hospital's Pink Ladies. Moreover, she was one of the founding members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Senior Gift Shop.

Lucille was preceded in death by her parents, Tom and Kizzie (Sugar) Fields.

Survivors included: her children, Cynthia Factor and Arlene Eford, both of Beggs, Mike Factor of Kansas City, Missouri, and adopted son, Alfred Berryhill of Okmulgee; one brother, Johnson Fields of Texas; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

Interment was held at the Okmulgee Cemetery.



Ellis



Factor

NELSON LEE HARJO

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Nelson Harjo were held Feb. 25 at Sand Creek Indian Baptist Church with Reverend Harry Anderson officiating.

Nelson was born May 11, 1939 to Lewis "Doc" and Ella (Colbert) Harjo.

He grew up in the Wetumka area and was raised by his grandparents, Bunny and Betsy Harjo. Mr. Harjo graduated from Wetumka School. He attended two years of college at Bacone Indian College where he participated in sports. Basketball and track were his favorites along with participating in rodeos, as a bull rider.

He was preceded in death by: his grandparents; father, Lewis Harjo; and one brother, John Frank Bender.

Survivors include: wife, Conner Woolbright Harjo; mother, Ella Colbert Bender; two sons, Nelson Jr. "Bronco" Harjo of Whitesboro and Lance Wayne Harjo of Tahliha; one daughter, Jannean Woolbright Thompson of Owasso; six grandchildren; 5 great grandchildren; brothers, Joe, Sam and George; eight sisters, Judith, Ann, Kendis, Alice, Betty, Debbie, Leah, Mary and Benella; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins.

Interment was held at the Harjo Family Cemetery.

HELEN HARLEY

HANNA — Funeral services for Helen Harley were held Feb. 24 at Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church with Reverend Nathaniel Harjo officiating.

Helen was born August 4, 1934 to Alex and Stella (Proctor) Harley.

She was a resident of Norman and a member of Trenton Indian Baptist Church.

Mrs. Harley was preceded in death by: her parents; five siblings, Dan, Alfred, Jonas, Stanley, and Pauline (Harley) Solomon; and one daughter, Nora Campos.

Survivors include: six children, Gary Harley, Stella Loving and Nettie Tiger, all of Oklahoma City, Joseph Harley and Wynett Tiger, both of Norman, and Annette (Hicks) Yargee of Checotah.

Interment was held at Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church Cemetery.

CY OSCEOLA JOHNSON, SR.

MORRIS — Funeral services for Cy Johnson were held Oct. 10 at Belvin Indian Baptist Church with Reverends Bo Johnson and Dave Long, Jr. officiating.

C y was born May 5, 1926 to Harbor and B e t t i e (McHenry) Johnson.

Upon graduation from high school, he served 12 years in the Army Air Corp., the U.S. Navy, and enlisted twice with the Marine Corp. After being honorably discharged from the military, he operated owned Cy's Auto Parts of Morris.

Cy retired in Las Vegas, until recently moving back to reside in Tulsa, he was baptized and became a member of Fife Memorial Church of Muskogee.

Mr. Johnson was preceded in death by: his parents, Harbor and Bettie (McHenry) Johnson; his wife, Rose (Fields) Johnson; and four children, Paul Johnson, Daniel Brown, Phyllis Brown, and Beverly Grummitt.

Survivors include: eight children, Cy Johnson, Jr. of Tulsa, Solomon Johnson of Okmulgee, Joseph Johnson, George Johnson, Wanda Mills, and Geri Berryhill, all of Morris, Cynthia Johnson of California, and Jessica Torres of Dallas; ten siblings, Hugh C. "Ed" Johnson of Norman, Keeper Johnson, Sr. and Pat Wahnee, both of Morris, Bo Johnson and Dee Sloan, both of Okmulgee, Dorothy Ticeahkie, Charlene Naveguaya, and Betty Neal, all of Lawton, Carolyn Niedo of Cyril, and Darlene Robertson of California; and numerous grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Interment was held at Big Cussetah Cemetery with Military graveside rites conducted by VFW Post 1189 of Okmulgee and VFW Post 539 of Henryetta.



Johnson

JOE LLOYD LOWE

DEWAR — Funeral services for Joe Lowe were held Feb. 22 at Silver Springs Indian Baptist Church with Reverend A.J. Tiger officiating.

Joe was born April 9, 1928 to Albert and Linnie (Richards) Lowe.

He lived in the Tiger Mountain/Pierce area his entire life and retired from Smithco of Tulsa.

Joe enjoyed fishing and was a member of Silver Springs Indian Baptist Church.

Mr. Lowe was preceded in death by: his parents; wife, Zeola (Napier) Lowe; two siblings, Sam Lowe and Ida Mae Hughes.

Survivors include: one stepdaughter, Melissa Stokes of Henryetta; five siblings, Hickman McIntosh of Dallas, Jerry R. Lowe of Eufula, and Tommy R. Lowe of Rio Vista, California, Dorcas Tiger of Tiger Mountain, and Abbie Davis of Dewar; two grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Interment was held at Silver Springs Cemetery.

TILLIER WESLEY, JR.

WEATHERFORD, Texas — Funeral services were held Feb. 20 at the Central Baptist Church.

Tillier was born June 27, 1955 to Tillier and Mable Wesley.

He will be remembered as a self-taught Native American artist who won several awards at Red Earth and other various art shows across the United States. His artwork can be found at various museums, including the Cowboy Hall of Fame, Red Earth of Okla-

homa City, The Ford Foundation of Norman, Eiteljorg Museum of Indianapolis, Indiana, the Wichita Mid-America Museum of Wichita, Kansas, and the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian of Washington D.C.

Mr. Wesley was preceded in death by his parents, Tillier Sr. and Mable Wesley.

Survivors include: wife, Pamela Wesley; two children, Toyce and Micah Wesley; seven siblings, Rosco Davis, Randy Wesley, Janice Tom, Gladys Jeffries, Freda Leaf, Loretta Wesley, and Paula Wesley; and a host of other family and friends who truly love him and will miss him greatly.

Interment was held at the Spring Creek Memorial Cemetery of Bethany.

Gratitude

The Haney family would like to say "Thank You Everyone" for all your love and support during this difficult time following the passing of our son, brother, uncle, and friend, John A. Haney. We would like to give a special thanks to Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, our Uncle Tom and Coach Sparks who spoke at the wake services, and to Reverends Harjo and Jackson, and our Uncle Kelly who spoke at the funeral.

Our family also sends our love and prayers to all that have been a solid support for us during our time of need. There are no words that can express how much we greatly appreciate all of the love, support, and prayers you have shown us. God Bless You All. *MVTO!*

John A. Haney Family

Legal

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However, the Court in *Quinn* did not give Congress unrestrained powers, but recognized limitations: But the power to investigate, broad as it may be, is also subject to recognized limitations. It cannot be used to inquire into private affairs unrelated to a valid legislative purpose. Nor does it extend to an area in which Congress is forbidden to legislate. Similarly, the power to investigate must not be confused with any of the powers of law enforcement; those powers are assigned under our Constitution to the Executive and the Judiciary. Still further limitations on the power to investigate are found in the specific individual guarantees of the Bill of Rights, such as the Fifth Amendment's privilege against self-incrimination which is in issue here. *Id.*

This Court agrees with and adopts the reasoning of the United States Supreme Court on this issue in *Quinn*, which is consistent with this Court's rulings. There is no doubt that the National Council, in order to properly legislate for the Nation, needs additional information from time to time. Therefore, it is imperative that the process of calling witnesses and experts be allowed to continue until Constitutional safeguards such as due process. It is incumbent upon, and hereby ordered that the National Council craft rules that safeguard every Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen or employee, regardless of position, from the contempt powers of the National Council unless a subpoena is specifically issued and due process is implemented. The language of those rules shall also recognize and address the strain on individual governmental departments caused by calling individuals to testify before the Council, and additional safeguards shall be put into place that minimize the loss of the employee's vital time from work of the Nation. Finally, appropriate language should be drafted that addresses the subjects of subpoena, testimony, and contempt proceedings against the Principal Chief and/or Second Chief consistent with laws on executive privilege. It follows that this Court holds that Title 30 § 3-104, 8-101 and 8-102 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code, as such sections pertain to the investigatory powers of the National Council, are hereby stricken as unconstitutional violations of individual rights to due process of law.

E. Office of Public Gaming Proceedings

The Office of Public Gaming is an independent office of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as so delineated in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Title 21, Section 11-108 et seq and in compliance with Title 16, Chapter 1, § 102. Further, the Office of Public Gaming is an Executive Branch entity and falls under the auspices of the Executive Branch's authority to appoint commissioners and set budgets. Federal regulations of the National Indian Gaming Commission mandate the independence of the Office of Public Gaming. We hold, therefore, that the Executive Branch and the National Council must abide by the federal regulations to keep the independence of the Office of Public Gaming from both executive and legislative influences.

At the trial of this matter, Defendant put forth Nelson Johnson, Commissioner of the Office of Public Gaming, to testify regarding alleged influence on his office by the National Council. This Court found Johnson's testimony, that he was not influenced by any member of the National Council, to be untruthful and unconvincing.

Therefore, this Court feels it necessary to admonish the National Council and the Principal Chief to refrain from influencing or directing the Office of Public Gaming except by way of amending the law that created and empowered said Office. Of utmost importance to the continued governance of this great Nation is the integrity of those who govern. It is, therefore, imperative that no member of the Executive Branch nor any member of the National Council nor any member of the Judicial Branch use his or her position to influence any Commissioner or independent board officer to gain any advantage for themselves or on behalf of another. At all times, those persons in positions of power and influence shall avoid even the appearance of impropriety in respect to the independence of the Commissioner in the performance of his or her duties.

F. Tobacco Negotiating Issues and Other Major Negotiations of the Tribe:

As discussed *supra*, the Principal Chief or his designee shall be primarily responsible to negotiate contracts that affect the economic integrity of the Nation. The National Council under the Separation of Powers doctrine as discussed *supra* does not have the power to "mandate" the Principal Chief to act or not act in a certain way in his official capacity as the Chief Executive Officer of this Nation. As pointed to *supra*, "the National Council shall have power (subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States of America) to legislate on matters subject to limitations..." (emphasis added).

A simple reading of the language of the Constitution indicates that the framers of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution envisioned a government where the legislature legislated; in other words, made laws for the Office of the Principal Chief to execute. Nowhere in the Creek Nation's Constitution does the language state or even imply that the National Council can mandate the Principal Chief to act or refrain from acting in his official capacity. This Court declares that TR 05-160 is unconstitutionally overbroad in restricting the powers of the Principal Chief to negotiate with other foreign officials and governments for the betterment of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and this Resolution is hereby stricken and shall immediately be considered null and void.

This Court is of the opinion that both the Office of the Principal Chief and National Council have duties to this Nation that must be fulfilled by working together for the advancement of the Muscogee people and the betterment of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. It is imperative that all of the branches of this government fulfill their constitutional obligations to its people. The Court does not and cannot address every issue of conflict that has surfaced or will surface between the Executive and Legislative branches of this government. However, the idea behind a system of checks and balances under a separation of powers is the restraint of mutual jealousy and indignation that one branch has more power than another. Each branch has its own powers, but each branch is accountable to the other, and more importantly to the Muskogee people. All branches must coexist equally to continue to strengthen and build the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Sotfivkolen epiken epikthakien.

/s/ Larry L. Oliver, Chief Justice

/s/ Denette Mosser, Vice Chief Justice

/s/ Amos McNac, Justice

/s/ George Almerigi, Justice

/s/ Houston Shirley, Justice

HOT CORNER

by
JASON SALSMAN

OK, I've been holding the excitement in for quite some time now. It's definitely time to let it out. March is finally here!

You'll have to excuse my enthusiasm. You see, this is the month that reminds me why I love sports, not just those played on the professional stage, but all levels of competition. This is it, it really gets no better than this.

What March indicates is what every sports fan desires, a smorgasbord of different competitions to revel in. None being bigger than the pinnacle, the absolute staple of the month of March; the NCAA Tournament. The tournament, in my opinion, might be the greatest spectacle in all of sports. No other tournament in the world offers the excitement, entertainment and heart stopping action as much as this 65 team monster provides. What is so special about it you may ask? I say the fact that 65 teams no matter what kind of season they have had, all have a chance at the end to call themselves the national champion. It's special because we would never otherwise remember that teams such as Valparaiso even exist. It's special because the late Jim Valvano's 1984 "never give up" North Carolina State Wolfpack defeated heavily favored Houston and "Phi Slamma Jamma" to make us believe in the underdog and that the biggest dreams can come true. I for one cannot wait to see what stories from this year's chapter will splash the pages of history.

It's a great time to be a baseball fan too. Spring Training gets in full swing with teams prepping themselves for the long, grueling 162-game baseball season. They get to escape their home fields and bask in the sunny rays and ocean view offered by Florida and the Grapefruit League, or they can bask in the desert of the Cactus League in Arizona. All told, every baseball fan should be excited because the month of March always ushers in another great season.

By the time this paper hits newsstands and homes the High School State basketball tournaments will be over and done with, but that doesn't mean I can't brag on them a little. Some of the best sports atmospheres in the world can be found at these high school slugfests. With each team playing like it might be their last game of the season, and for all but one of them it will be, it only enhances the adrenaline in the building. Gyms and arenas throughout the Oklahoma City metro are packed with fans and followers trying to will their squads to a Gold Ball. There's nothing like walking into the Big House and feeling the energy from these games, it's electrifying. If you don't think it's intense, then you have never been.

And one quick reminder, March is also the start of spring football. You want to act like there isn't anybody out there who cares about football in March? Try and tell me that when you see 50,000 plus show up to watch Oklahoma in a spring game. I'm out!

March Madness Stronger Than Ever in Third Year

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

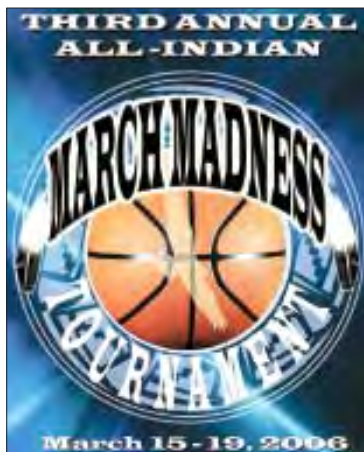
HENRYETTA — What started out years ago as an idea conceived by four friends has now become a three-year tradition in the month of March.

4 Love of the Game founders Lucas Taylor, B.J. Waggner, David Pascale and Victor Bear probably never imagined their All-Indian March Madness Basketball Tournament would be what it is today, but they could not be more pleased.

"This is all for the kids," said Taylor. "Growing up we never had opportunities like this, to showcase

March Madness has continued to grow and get better and better. We didn't want it to stay the same and be predictable because then the kids would lose interest."

Speaking of growth, this tournament is beginning to outgrow the state. It's not just Oklahoma teams that are being summoned to the Henryetta High School Gymnasium for some hoops action. Teams scheduled to make an appearance this year are coming from as far as Arizona, Idaho, Georgia, Florida and Mis-



College workshops will be given, guest speakers will attend and there will be scholarships handed out at the conclusion of the weekend.

There will be some fun involved as well too, with a pizza party scheduled from Mazzio's and a dance on Friday night.

Taylor talked about the past two years and how the tournament has progressed. "Each year since the first, everything seems to have stepped up a notch," he said. "We're very proud of the fact that

Mississippi.

In addition to All-Star squads and MVP's being chosen a team will be selected from the best players at the tournament to represent 4 Love of the Game at the All-West Tournament in Denver.

When talking about longevity, it is clear that March Madness certainly fits that mold. "We're excited about where it continues to go," added Taylor. "The future's bright."

March Madness Schedule of Events:

Wednesday, March 15

College Day, Henryetta High School

- 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M. - Registration, pick up backpack and player pass.

- 1:00 P.M. - Welcome, Kyle Taylor, Native American Recruiter Bacone College

- 1:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M. - College Prep Workshops.

- 4:30 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. - Guest Speaker

- 5:30 P.M. - 6:15 P.M. - Coaches Meeting; Schedule, Rules and Brackets.

- 6:15 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. - Mazzio's Pizza/Drinks; Welcome Party; Highlight Video; Guest Speaker; X-BOX NBA Street V3 Tournament Challenge.

Thursday, March 16

Pool Play, Henryetta High School

- 8:30 A.M. - 9:00 A.M. - Tournament Kick-Off Presentation.

- 9:00 A.M. - 10:00 P.M. - Pool Play

Friday, March 17

Pool Play/Special Events/East-West All-Star Games, Henryetta High School

- 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M. - Pool Play

- 3:00 P.M. - 4:45 P.M. - Gym closed to prepare for Special Events and East/West All-Star Games.

- 5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M. - Three-Point Shootout, Team Ball, and Slam Dunk Contests.

- 7:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M. - Girls' and Boys' East/West All-Star Games.

- 10:00 P.M. - Midnight - Dance held at Henryetta Inn and Dome.

Saturday, March 18

Henryetta High School

- 8:00 A.M. - 10 P.M. - Single elimination Tournament (March Madness Style).

Sunday, March 19

Henryetta High School

- Formal Awards Banquet

- 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M. Dinner

- 2:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

All-Tournament Team

Male and Female MVP's

Outstanding Offensive and Defensive Player Awards

Announce selection of boys' and girls' teams for All-West Tournament (Denver) Scholarship Presentation

(2) Bacone College Scholarships - Full Tuition for Four Years

(2) George Tiger Family Haskell Indian Nations University Scholarships

(2) \$1,000 Scholarships and (2) \$500 Scholarships

(2) \$500 Red Sticks Society Scholarships Closing & Highlight Video

Haskell Icon Scotty Harjo leaves a lasting legacy

By Jason Salsman
MNN Reporter

LAWRENCE, Kansas — It is very rare in this world anymore to find selfless individuals. Those who put others above themselves and strive to truly make a difference in someone's life, but that was Scotty Harjo, that was his passion.

Harjo passed away from this world on Wednesday, February 22 leaving behind a legacy that is sure to survive from generation to generation. That is what happens when you make a mark.

Harjo was a coach, friend and residential counselor for students at Haskell Indian Nations University for many

years. Years spent shaping the minds of Native youth and giving them a path.

Talk to any of those whose lives Harjo has touched and you get a sense of just how special this man was.

"When I think of Haskell, I think of Scotty Harjo," said Lucas Taylor, who attended Haskell and remembers his dear friend. "He really made it feel like home."

He not only made it feel like home, for some he provided a home. When current

women's head basketball coach Phil Homeratha came to Haskell as a student

in 1957 he was taken in by Scotty and his wife Esther. "I spent a summer with them, and they never charged me a thing," he told NDNSports.com. "It wasn't because they didn't need the money, it was because they cared about me."

Anyone wanting to pattern their life after this man has some awfully big shoes to fill. "There are no more Scotty Harjos," Homeratha said. "We'll never see another one like him."



OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Should the NCAA tournament field of 65 teams be extended to add more?



what we see when the NCAA basketball tournament comes around in

In this hard, cynical world that we live in, it's still always nice to see an underdog get an opportunity and make the most of it. Symbolically, that's

March. With the expansion of added teams, we get a chance to see a team that no one knows about. Although it is true that the odds are very unlikely that these underdog or lower seeded teams will advance to the championship, but it certainly grabs everyone's attention when an unknown does advance a little, that's why we liked the movie 'Hoosiers' so much.



up as a sacrificial lamb to powerhouses like Duke and Connecticut in

Absolutely not! If you ask me, I think it should not have as many teams as it does. What good comes out of a lowly 16 seed being offered the first round. The 16 seed has never won, and guess what they never will. The 15 seed has trouble as well, only winning a handful of games in the tournament's history. I like upsets as much as the next man, but teams serious about making a run need the extra rest and shouldn't be concerned with those games. They don't need to worry about steamrolling weaker opponents in the opening rounds.



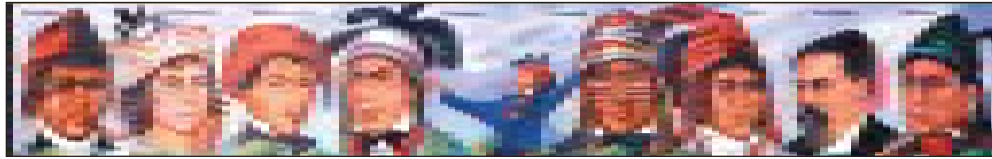
Tulsa Indian Art Festival displays Creek Art



Gaming updates with Tulsa & Okmulgee Casinos



Midway goes all the way in offering delicacies.



Section C, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

March 2006

Carlisle story set to hit Silver Screen

LOS ANGELES (Hollywood Reporter) — Oscar-nominated cinematographer John Schwartzman will make his directorial debut on the pigskin movie "Carlisle School."

The film tells the true story of a ragtag team of American Indian football players, led by future sports legend and Olympic gold medalist Jim Thorpe. The men attended the Carlisle Indian Industrial School, a boarding school in Pennsylvania that from 1879-1918 housed American Indians from childhood through college. The men overcame long odds in the early part of the 20th century to defeat some of the best college football teams in the nation.

Mark Ciardi and Gordon Gray, the duo behind the sports-themed movies *Miracle* and *The Rookie*, are producing the project for Walden Media with John Fusco and Jim Crabbe.

Schwartzman, one of Hollywood's most respected directors of photography, was nominated for an Oscar for his work on 2003's *Seabiscuit* and won the American Society of Cinematography's ASC Award for outstanding achievement in cinematography for the film. Among his other big-screen credits are *Pearl Harbor*, *Armageddon*, *The Rock* and *Conspiracy Theory*.

In the early 1900s — perhaps with the exception of Major League Baseball — College Football was the most popular and beloved sport throughout the United States. Among the nation's elite programs



Carlisle Indian School and Nebraska University battle it out on the gridiron in this archive photo.

were the perennial powerhouse Ivy League Schools, Army (West Point) and, most surprising of all, the Carlisle Indian School of Pennsylvania. Under the direction of Coach "Pop" Warner and led by legendary halfback and Olympic champion, Jim Thorpe, the Carlisle football team battled not only their gridiron opponents but also the institutionalized racism of the Carlisle Indian School, the US Government, and the era. Against incredible odds and obstacles, both on and off the field, the

Indian football team put together a string of spectacular seasons, culminating in glorious victories over Harvard in Cambridge and Army at West Point. The Indians versus the Harvard intellectual elite and the US Military is the perfect microcosm of the battles that had been waged for centuries in the classrooms and plains across America.

Author Joseph Bruchac, drawing from his Native American heritage, has authored more than 70 books for adults and children; his po-

ems, articles, and stories have appeared in over 500 publications; and as a professional teller of traditional tales of the Adirondacks and the Native People of the Northeast Woodlands. Only a storyteller with Joseph Bruchac's background, wisdom, and skill can do justice to the amazing, often heartrending chronicle of Jim Thorpe and the Carlisle Indians as told in Walden Media's first publishing offering *Jim Thorpe: Original All-American*.

Restless Natives Motion Production Company prepares casting call

OKLAHOMA CITY — Restless Natives Motion Picture Company is casting for a feature to be shot in April, 2006.

Six Pack and *Gas Money* is an action story about brotherly and family love. It's a story of two brothers, Michael and Dennis, who grow up living two completely different lives. Where Michael is a success, Dennis is slipping into drugs. Michael does his best to protect Dennis, but when Xavier, the drug kingpin, causes problems for both, things get complicated.

CAST BREAKDOWN:
YOUNG MICHAEL (age 7-14) - Michael as a child. Native American. Please e-mail us for sides before the audition. YOUNG DENNIS (age 7-14) - Dennis as a child. Native American. Please e-mail us for sides before the audition. JUSTIN (age 25-30) - Best friend of the main character, Michael. He is a co-owner of a club and is a very close friend of Pat. Justin and Pat mostly work together. PAT (age 25-30) - Also a best friend of Michael. Also co-owns the club and is close friend of Justin. Justin and Pat mostly work together. XAVIER (age 30 or over) - Large tough guy. Imagine Kingpin from *Daredevil* or Marsellus Wallace from *Pulp Fiction*. He's the drug lord of the city. He's the bad guy. He has a presence that can cause even the most

confident man to be timid. CAROL (age 21-30) - Love interest of Michael. She's the nice girl who is the backbone of her man. She's a waitress/assistant manager at the club and is witty and wise. Prefer her to be of an ethnic background. MANDY (age 18-30) - stripper/girlfriend of Dennis. She's addicted to drugs. She is lost, but will soon get back on her feet again. Think Brittany Murphy's character from '8 Mile'. COLLECTOR 1 - Money collector for another mob boss. Tough guy who's not afraid of anything. COLLECTOR 2 - Money collector for another mob boss. Tough guy who's not afraid of anything. EX-TERMINATOR - The baddest of the bad. He should be the toughest man alive. He's a boxer and a hired

muscle. Must be in good physical condition. MAIN MAN - XAVIER's right hand man. UNK (older gentleman) - Big American Indian Man. The uncle of Michael and Dennis. He's a tough Indian who has a big heart. GIRLFRIEND - Overweight girlfriend. She wants her man to stand up for her, but think he's weak. Actress must be secure with a movie character calling her fat. (Does not need to audition, but can send headshot/resume) JOHNNY - XAVIER's accountant. He's a Steve Buscemi-type character. BIG LOU - Overweight male. Has a few lines. He's one of Xavier's homeboys. There are other parts for other characters. All are encouraged to audition. Also needing extras for additional scenes (preferably 18 or over).

Also seeking crew. The characters Michael and Dennis are already cast.

Auditions were held at these locations: Moore Public Library, 225 South Howard, Moore, OK 73160. Feb. 16th (Thurs.) 5:30 pm - 8:30 p.m. There will be a sign with the word "Audition". It will tell you which meeting room we'll be having the auditions in. Fred Jones Art Center In the School of Art 520 Parrington Oval (SW corner of Boyd and University) Room B17. March 3, 2006 (4:30 pm - 7:30 pm).

If you weren't able to make audition, you may send headshot/resume, and if possible, reel to: Restless Natives MPPC, 121 24th Ave. NW, Suite 100, Norman, OK 73069.

Movies at a Glance

The man in black comes back

to life on the big screen in the critically acclaimed biopic, *Walk the Line*.



In the film country music icon Johnny Cash is immortalized by Joaquin Phoenix. The initial stages of the movie start out slow, much like Johnny's career, with Phoenix really not able to capture the essence or the voice of the famed singer. But as he reaches the stage and the big time his portrayal of the timeless rebel takes flight. The movie's plot is centered on Cash falling in love with fellow entertainer and tour partner June Carter, played brilliantly

by Reese Witherspoon. Witherspoon traps the charm and country girl persona that made June one of rural America's earliest sweethearts. Much like the film *Ray* did for Ray Charles, this picture also touches on the dark side of the entertainment industry, focusing on Cash's constant struggle and eventual triumph with drug abuse. When rating this film I would say that not only did it "walk the line" it went the extra mile.



Ted Isham

Creek Council House Museum Curator

This month's article will be dealing with preservation issues. Questions that come to mind when the word 'preservation' is used are, "what is preservation and what does that word mean to me?" Once these two questions are investigated and answered, the process of raising awareness and the act of preserving can begin. Without preservation efforts, we would not know about our important events or places of history. We could not lay claim to events that have happened to us without actual evidence of these events. Documents, places/sites and oral tradition intersect to tell the stories of who our ancestors were and who we are. Preservation is the overt effort to save or keep safe, for as long as possible, the objects, memory, places of significance and the teachings of our past. Ideally, we would like to preserve things forever, but maybe this is an unrealistic goal, so we try to preserve things for as long as possible.

Last month we talked about the Creek Council House Museum as an object of preservation; now we will talk about other places and sites that may be worth our thoughts. As we save for the future we are reminded of all the collective knowledge that is before us as Creeks today, and how much of that knowledge may have been lost. We thank those that have thought of us by

saving some aspect of the history either in oral traditions, photographs, and documents or in the places and sites that they lived. If our ancestors did not make conscious efforts to preserve things from their daily lives, there are things we would not know about today. It is with this concept that we also think about the future.

The preservation efforts of the collections and site of the Creek Council House Museum are among the many instances throughout the Creek Nation that helps us in maintaining our Creek identity. There are many places and sites that hold the keys to telling our history here in Oklahoma and in the original homelands back east. With the upcoming centennial celebrations of the state of Oklahoma it is a time to reflect on



Levering Mission, Wetumka Oklahoma

what we, as Creeks, have to celebrate. It turns out that we as Creek people had much to bring to the table in 1907 in the formation of the new state of Oklahoma, as we were here long before the Land Run.

The history of the Creek Nation in Indian Territory is filled with many examples of perseverance and survival. This is a testament to our ancestors who made the trek across the Southern US to the Indian Territory. Think of our *Este catvke* with the churches and

camphouses and the ceremonial grounds and camps—our predecessors reestablished them here from Georgia and Alabama. Many of these sites are still active today. It would be very sad to allow the stories of our ancestors to be forgotten by negligence on our part. The history of this state could not be told without including the history and places of our people. Some of the better-known sites and places of Muscogee (Creek) history in the state of Oklahoma, formerly Indian Territory include Creek Council House Museum, Okmulgee Ok; Nuyaka Mission, Nuyaka Ok; Creek Orphans Home, Okmulgee Ok; Levering Mission, Wetumka Ok; Eufaula Boarding School, Eufaula Ok; Euchee Institute, Sapulpa Ok; Tullahassee Mission, near Muskogee Ok; Old Council Grounds, near Council Hill Ok; Council Oak Tree site, Tulsa Ok; Family grave sites; Chief's burial sites; Checote, Okmulgee Ok; Ispaheche, Beggs Ok; Moty Tiger, Okmulgee Ok.

The responsibilities for the identification, and care of historic sites and places belongs to many groups and is undertaken for the benefit of our descendants. The various groups to be involved are; the tribe, the individual and the museum as an institution exclusively dedicated

to the mission of preservation. The tribe can initiate such public works projects that include taking care of former Chief's graves, the acknowledgment of historic sites and developing a national policy dedicated to saving our history or historical sites. Individuals can be involved in preservation efforts by asking to be acknowledged in a public forum and by conducting best care practices that help lengthen the life of personal objects and sites. This is accomplished by taking classes that teach such

skills. The museum can assist in preservation efforts by making the information available, by conducting workshops for the general public, by showcasing the collection that pertains to a site or place and by being an information resource. Together these efforts will insure that our histories will not be lost. This is seen in the preservation efforts that have helped save the Council House from destruction many times in its history, our history. We thank all those visionary individuals, such as Will Rogers and many other ordinary citizens who helped save the Creek Council House (*Mvsokke Erihw Nakviev Coko*). *Mvto cekivkees ci/Mvtekosan makaranis ci!*

Upcoming art shows

Art Under the Oaks

TULSA — The Art Under the Oaks Art Show will be held April 2 - 30, at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, 1101 Honor Heights Drive. Awards and Reception will be April 2 at 2:00 pm in the Museum Gallery.

For more information call (918) 683-1701.

Indian Art Market and Festival

MUSKOGEE — The Indian Art Market and Festival will be held April 22 - 23 at the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, 1101 Honor Heights Drive. The market and festival will be open to the public between 10:00 am until 5:00 pm.

For more information call (918) 683-1701.

If you would like to advertise your upcoming art show e-mail your information to: cbrown@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Tulsa Indian Art Festival displays Creek talent

TULSA — True art will always sustain itself. The beautiful fact about a work of art is that it only needs itself to be a masterpiece, outside factors cannot affect it's power and significance. That point could not be more proven than at this year's Tulsa Indian Art Festival.

"Snow, sleet and ice could not deter the Festival's 20 year celebration. The turnout was less than expected, but was surprisingly good considering the weather conditions. The snow outside helped create a party atmosphere inside the Tulsa Event Center." Said Fran Kimmel the TIAF Director. "Arvel Bird's fiddle playing rocked the room as the 65 exhibiting artists visited with customers and with each other. Artists and volunteers gathered in the hospitality room to enjoy the many snacks provided by volunteer, Peggy Char. Muscogee (Alabama Corsadee) / Cherokee, Will Hill and Geninne Washington, Cherokee, Yuchi Seminole, of Mahenwahdase gave outstanding performances that kept the audience completely engaged. The Tulsa Indian Festi-

val is an all volunteer network sponsoring scholarships in visual and performing arts to qualified American Indian students. Buffalo Gouge of Santa Fe, New Mexico won a scholarship in 1993 and was one of the exhibiting artists.

The TIAF committee was exceptionally pleased with the overall show. The quality of the artwork was exceptional, the layout of the room created a warm and inviting atmosphere and attendance was good in spite of the weather. Proving that it is never too early to look ahead, plans are already underway for the 21st Annual Tulsa Art Festival to be held in 2007.

The Tulsa Indian Art Festival also

featured quality entertainment with fun events such as the performance from

Will Hill and Magic Show provided by Sandy Rhodes, other performers included Kathy Dickerson, Pauline Haney, Arvel Bird / Singing Wolf

Records. A art workshop was held by Robbie McMurtry and demonstrations by Randi Narcomey were provided.

Many Creek artists displayed their art in various styles of the Creek Culture.

Jon Tiger, an award winning Myskoke (Creek) artist displayed his art in acrylic, watercolor, prisma pencil, and other various methods.

Jon is a member of the Raccoon Clan of the Red or Warrior Town of Eufaula-Canadian Tribal Town and a member of the West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church. To understand and appreciate

the beauty of this art, one would have to consider the surroundings and the

resources that nature provided to the early artists. The Southwestern area of this country was divided by rivers and tributaries which supported the many native tribes in these area. Natural resources which included fiber from trees and plants, clay from river banks and wood from surrounding forest were used by these people. A number of artists who participated in the 20th Tulsa Indian Art Festival were still using these natural resources to create some of the magnificent art work which was on display and for sale. The snow and ice continued to fall throughout this years Tulsa Indian Art Festival, but spirits remained lifted.



Creek artist Mary Howard discusses art with public.



Creek artist Jon Harjo displays art.



TulsaPromotions



Casino Promotions

100,000 SHOWERS OF CASH – PICK YOUR PAYDAY

Most casino promotions happen at the same time, on the same day of the week. Creek Nation Casino realizes these days and times don't always fit into your schedule, so we are letting you pick your payday during our "100,000 Showers of Cash" promotion. Swipe your Players Club card daily and choose from four different daily drawing times to place your entry. Ten winners will be selected at each drawing time for \$150 in cash plus a chance to return on Thursday for the weekly Grand Prize drawings for \$2,000! Each week's daily winners will be invited back to Finals Week and on Thursday, April 27, we will give away \$3,000, \$5,000, and \$10,000 in cash!

MEN'S NIGHT - Wrangler Wednesdays

Men, there is no better way to warm up to nicer weather than in a brand new Jeep, so don't miss Creek Nation Casino's "Wrangler Wednesdays." Start swiping your Players Club cards at 6 pm for your chance at half-hour cash drawings from 7 pm to 10 pm for a total of \$2,500 in cash. Plus, two lucky men each week will win \$500 and a key that could possibly start the 2006 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited on April 26. (Wednesdays starting at 6 pm, March 1 - April 26).

LADIES NIGHT - Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

With Creek Nation Casino's new "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" Ladies Night promotion, you could definitely be turning some heads as you drive away in a brand new 2006 Pontiac Solstice Convertible. Join us for half-hour cash drawings from 7 pm to 10 pm totaling \$2,500. And at 10 pm, two lucky ladies

will win \$500 and a key that could start the 2006 Pontiac Solstice on April 24! (Mondays, starting at 6 pm, Through April 24).

TORNADO TUESDAYS

Join us at Creek Nation Casino every Tuesday for Tornado Tuesdays, featuring hourly \$1,000 cash drawings starting at 6 pm. Receive entries by playing any Rocket machines for every \$20 deposited. If the prize is not claimed after three minutes, the \$1,000 will roll over to the next drawing. And at 10 pm each Tuesday, all money must go! (Tuesdays starting at 5 pm, March 7 - April 25).

IF YOU SNOOZE, YOU LOSE...

Having trouble sleeping? Or are you a night owl? Head down to Creek Nation Casino for our new late night promotion! Swipe in at Guest Services starting at 11 pm every Sunday through Wednesday in March for \$150 drawings from 12 am - 3 am and a final drawing at 4 am for \$400!

SENIORS WAKE UP AND WIN

Seniors, rise and shine at Creek Nation Casino Mondays through Thursdays. From 9 am to 1 pm (starting April 3rd Monday & Tuesdays only), our valued senior guests will receive \$5 free play and complimentary breakfast at our Jackpot Café. What better way to start the day than with Creek Nation Casino's Wake Up and Win promotion.

MARCH MONEY MADNESS (NCAA TOURNAMENT)

The only way to make March more exciting at Creek Nation Casino is to throw in some money to go along with

all the buzzer beaters and hot basketball action. Each week during March Madness players may register their bracket picks at Guest Services. The person with the most amount of correct picks at the end of the Tournament will win \$5,000! Second place will win \$1,500 and third place will win \$1,000. (March 13 through April 3).

Poker Promotions

WORLD SERIOUS OF POKER TOURNAMENT – Qualify daily through June 27 to win a seat in the World Series of Poker! Qualify for the playoffs in June by winning a regularly scheduled tournament in March, April or May.

THE BIG BOUNTY POKER TOURNAMENT

Play in The Big Bounty, our newest No Limit Hold'em Tournament every Thursday and Sunday at 7 pm and receive an extra \$20 for every player you eliminate! Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$115.

DAILY RIVER SHOWDOWN

Pull up a seat in Oklahoma's most upscale Poker Room for our Daily River Showdown tournaments starting at 9 am. Registration begins at 8:30 am and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of just \$30.00.

LADIES TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENTS

Ladies Night Texas Hold'em tournaments start at 7 pm every Monday. Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is

open to all ladies, with a total buy-in of just \$30.00.

MEN'S NIGHT – THE BIG ONE POKER TOURNAMENT

The Big One, Creek Nation Casino's Men's Night no-limit Texas Hold'em tournament starts at 7 pm every Wednesday, with registration beginning at 6:30 pm (\$115 total buy-in).

TEXAS HOLD'EM PROGRESSIVE BAD BEAT JACKPOTS

Losing Never Felt So Good! Creek Nation Casino's new Progressive Bad Beat Jackpots consist of three separate progressive jackpots awarded to hands of aces full of jacks losing to a better hand.

TEXAS HOLD'EM HIGH HANDS

Good hands are hard to come by, and at Creek Nation Casino, Texas Hold'em high hands pay bonuses 24 hours a day, seven days a week with progressive bonuses on four of a kind, straight flush, and royal flush hands increasing \$100 a day.

Blackjack Promotions

PAYDAYS OF SPADES

Receive a suited spaded Blackjack and win a bonus of \$25 during our Paydays of Spades promotion. With our now famous Envy Bonus, each player at the table who is actively betting will be awarded a bonus matching his or her original bet, up to \$10. Other great bonuses include: 7-7-7 of Spades - \$150; 6-7-8 of Spades - \$100. (24 hours a day, seven days a week).

OkmulgeePromotions

VIP BIRTHDAY REWARD

If you have a Birthday in February, stop by our promotion desk and register by March 25. Then come in at 7 pm on the 25th and receive a \$10 Free Play and a Birthday Cupcake.

LUCK OF THE IRISH

Come in on St. Patrick's Day and keep your eyes peeled for our Lucky Leprechaun. This flighty little creature will be making random appearances throughout the casino with various goodies for those lucky enough to catch it. Friday, March 17, starting at 2:00 p.m.

4 DAY BONUS HANDS

Hit a bonus hand while playing our table games and get a free Bonus Hand T-shirt and entry into a drawing for a gift basket of logo items along with \$25 in chips, to be held Thursday, March 30 at 10:00 p.m.

BEAT THE MANAGER

When you come in on Sunday evenings, be sure to swipe your Cache Card. Every half hour we will draw a contestant to beat one of our Managers at a basketball shoot-out for various prizes.

HUNDRED DOLLAR BUMPER

Swipe your Cache Card between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. every Sunday

and Wednesday and if your vehicle has our Creek Nation Casino bumper sticker on it, you could win \$100 cash. Drawings held at 6:00 p.m.

SPIN THE WHEEL

Participants that receive a Bonus Hand on a Blackjack or Poker Table will receive a chance to spin our prize wheel loaded with a variety of cash prizes. In honor of St. Patrick's Day, Club suited Blackjack's will be seen as a bonus hand.

Bonus hands consist of 6, 7, 8, (suited or unsuited); 7,7,7, (suited or unsuited); & 5 Card Charlie. Poker Bonus Hands consist of a Flush to a Royal Flush.

Sundays and Wednesdays from 4:00 p.m. to close.

VIP SENIORS

Each week we celebrate our Senior Citizen guests by offering the first 100 participants, a \$5 free play. Simply swipe your Cache Card for the free play and you will also be entered into drawings held every half hour for \$10. There will also be a 2:00 p.m. drawing for \$25.

Starting at 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Must be 50 years of age or over.

BASKETBALL BLOWOUT

To get you into the March Madness mood we are giving the first 25 people to swipe their Cache Card a

CNCO Mini-Basketball and an entry into hourly drawings for \$10 free plays as well as a drawing at 5:00 pm. for \$500. Tuesdays, 12:00 Noon - 5:00 p.m.

LADIES AND MENS

Join us each Monday and Tuesday for our Ladies' and Men's Nights. The first 100 participants to swipe their Cache Card will receive a \$5 Match Play and an entry into drawings held at 7:30, 8:00, 8:30, 9:00 p.m. or \$25 and another entry for a \$50 to be held at 10:00 p.m.

EVERY DAY IS A PAYDAY

Be one of the first 25 participants to swipe your Cache Card and receive a delicious Payday candy bar and a \$5 Match Play.

Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

BIRTHDAY BONANZA

Find our Birthday Bonanza board in the casino and you may have won a prize. Each Wednesday we will post random dates on this board and depending on how much of your birthday matches the dates posted you can win logo items, a \$5 match play, or \$25 in cash.

TIME IS MONEY

Swipe your Cache Card to enter into drawings held every hour for \$25

from 11 :00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Everyone who enters the weekly promotion will be entered into a Grand Prize Drawing to be held on April 3rd at 3:00 p.m. for a Grandfather Clock in honor of Daylight Savings Time.

MIDWAY WEDNESDAY

We are having hot seat drawings every twenty minutes each Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Each hot seat winner will receive a logo'd item and will then have their Cache Card swiped and will be entered into a drawing for \$25 to be held at 3:00 p.m.

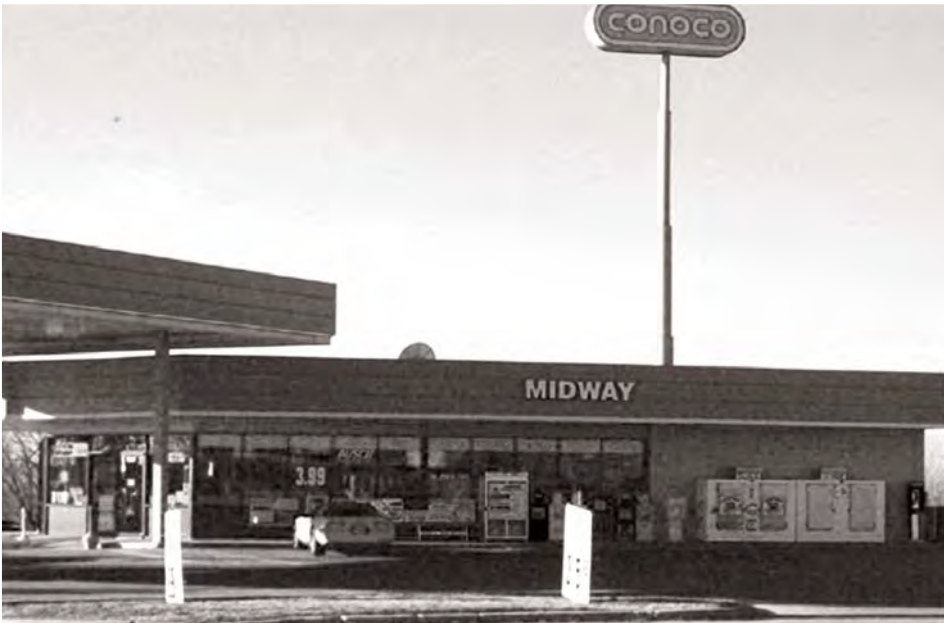
LATE NIGHT FUN

Thursdays, Midnight - 2:00 a.m.. Here's a promotion for all the insomniacs out there. Be one of the first 25 participants to swipe their Cache card and receive a free \$5.00 match play. After all, if you're awake, you might as well be having fun.


SWIPE INTO SPRING

Swipe your Cache Card once per day to be entered for a final drawing to be held on March 20th. Drawings will be held every hour from 10:00 a.m. to 10 p.m. on the 20th.

March 1 - 20 with final drawing 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. March 20.



Fresh Picked
Spring 2006



Naturally pretty lips, dew-licious lips and a fresh flush are yours for the picking. Come in and see the best of the bunch!

18 Oak Street ~ Eufaula, OK 74432
(918)618-4301

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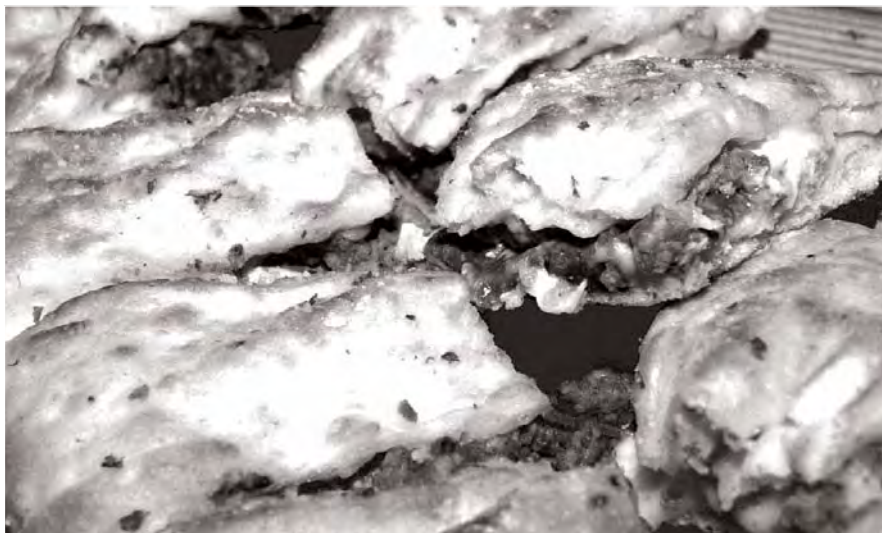
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5th Annual
"TO BRIDGE A GAP CONFERENCE"
March 22-24, 2006
Green Country Technology Center
1100 Hwy 56 ~ Okmulgee, OK 74447

This conference is to strengthen relationships between the federally recognized Tribal Governments and the USDA Forest Service who have a mutual interest in managing the cultural, natural and social resources of our National Forests

Keynote Speaker for the Banquet on
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will be Muscogee (Creek) Citizen
John Beaver, Repatriation Program Specialist
Smithsonian, National Museum of the American Indian
For more information including registration please contact
MCN Cultural Preservation Department:
Joyce Bear (918)732-7731,
email: preservation@muscogeenation-nsn.gov
or Johnnie Jacobs at (918)732-7648,
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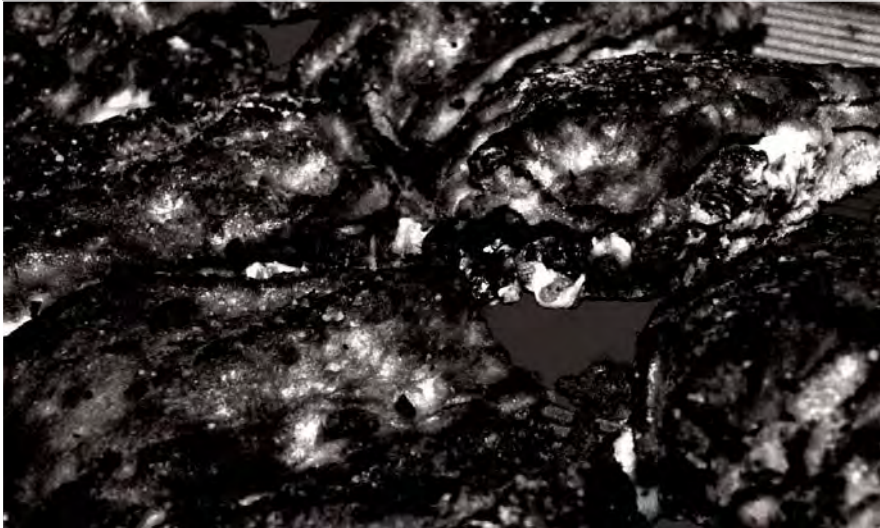
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Midway Store goes all the way in offering delicacies

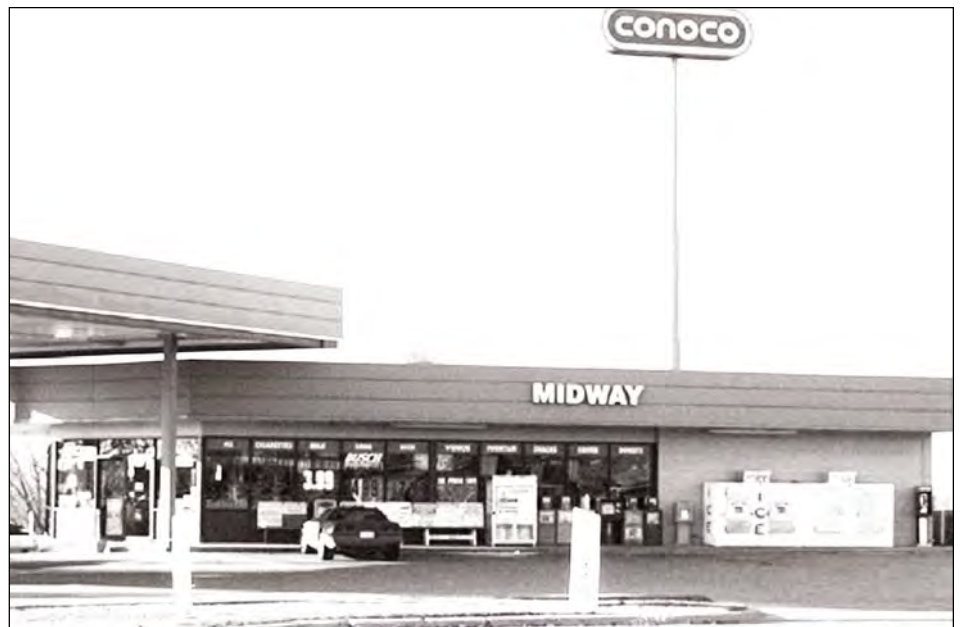
DEWAR — This page that we call ‘food review’, is usually reserved for places of decor that are traditionally known as “sit down” places. You know, restaurants and cafes that you go to and order a meal or dish and enjoy it there. But in this case, we have broke the line of tradition and ventured out just a little bit and wanted to bring you, the reader, a different type of food and a different type of setting.

The busy route that Oklahomans know as Highway 75 is busting at the seams with numerous eateries. Travelers can choose between truckstops, mom and pop shops, and national franchise burger joints, so its always nice to see a little place just off the beaten path that offers tasty food at reasonable prices, but is disguised as a gas station.

As you arrive from the north into Henryetta, Oklahoma, the home of Dallas



Cowboy great Troy Aikman and Rodeo Champion Jim Shoulders as the welcome sign mentions, you notice that just to the east, after you come to the first set of stop lights, a Conoco gasoline station. Nothing really different from the outside that makes the station stand out from say, any other fuel station found along the highways of America.



But once you step inside, the store takes on a life of its own. The market is filled with all the standard snacks items that a hungry or thirsty traveler may request, but venture in a little further and you discover a glass case filled with all kinds of hot, and tempting food choices.

The crew at Midway doesn’t just ring up the total at the cash register and say “Have a nice day”, but are actually trained in cooking up such various tasty treats. The customer will find the standard food staples such as hamburgers, and hot dogs, which are very good, but then the menu takes on a life of its own as unique items such as the ‘nachoritos’ are offered. These are neatly packed little burritos stuffed with cheese and jalapeno peppers. Midways also offers burritos with beef and bean inside.

Another popular local favorite is the chicken strips that seem to be a mainstay of Midway which also features a deli that contains all the standard choices of cold cuts and lunch meat.

Popcorn chicken is also uniquely made with Midway’s secret herbs and spices and the corndogs are also cooked the only way that Midway manager/owner Doug Wadley would have them.

Pizza can also be ordered from the menu as well as calzones, both products of Simple Simons. These products may come from Simple Simons but the employees of Midway prepare these products and are made to order for the customer.

Midway grocery and deli is located in Dewar just east of Highway 75 on Highway 266 and is open everyday from 5:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m.

Midway Grocery Calizone Food Review *by Suzie Joki*

A calizone is sometimes referred to as a stuffed pizza, it is an Italian turnover made of pizza dough and stuffed with mozzarella cheese, or even monterey jack cheese, meat, vegetables, etc.

The dough is folded over, sealed along one edge and baked in an oven and often served with marinara sauce (a sauce similar to tomato sauce). Calizones are a relative specialty in most Western countries, often being served as a complement to pizza, and stands alone as a meal.

As I sat down to devour this round piece of bread with the aroma of garlic, I ask myself, “I wonder what this is going to taste like?” Not being a fan of sausage I was concerned that it being mixed in other ingredients would somehow effect my perception of how it would taste. I wanted to approach this meal without reservation. To my surprise this round loaf of bread that was stuffed with sausage, cheese, pepperoni and topped with butter and garlic was delicious it made my taste buds come alive. The combination of these foods had a rich taste with cheese being the prominent flavor. I enjoyed the calizone and felt like I had a very satisfying lunch. I did leave the meal needing a mint from the garlic, a small price to pay for a great lunch!

Naturally pretty lips, dew-licious lips and a fresh flush are yours for the picking. Come in and see the best of the bunch!

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Official Publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

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May 2006

Inside May's Issue

TRIBAL - SECTION A



Chief says Oklahoma Governor approves new tobacco compact

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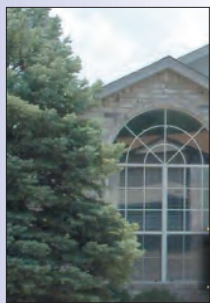
LEGISLATIVE



Creek Nation plays a major part in boosting the Native American vote

Page A3

HOUSING



Housing program addresses inquiries

Page A6

SCENE - SECTION C



All the information you need for a great time at the Muscogee Nation Festival being held in June. Don't miss this great event! See Section C for Details.

THIS MONTH'S REMINDER

Principal Chief, along with Tribal Administration will be conducting a Town Hall Meeting at the Koweta Indian Community Center on May 25th at 6:30 p.m. This has been a very important part of the Chief's mission, to bring tribal government and services to the people. For more information contact, Rachal Sumka (918) 732-7604.



Pictured, from left to right, are Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis, Lt. Governor Chickasaw Nation Jefferson Keel, Seminole Nation Chief Kelly Haley, Seminole Nation Assistant Chief Larry Harrison, and Cherokee Nation Chief Chad Smith.

Photo by Ruth Bible

100 years later, Tribes still in full force and effect

By Jason Salsman
MNN Staff Writer

TULSA - On April 26, leaders representing each of the Five Civilized Tribes gathered on the grounds of the historic Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council Oak Park to commemorate the Five Civilized Tribes Act of 1906, an act that was a precursor to Oklahoma's statehood and reinforced the continuance of the tribal governments and said they were to continue in "full force and effect."

On this day, 100 years after the Act was put in place, the tribal leaders stood just as firm and strong as the massive oak that was behind them. They were there to remind Oklahoma, on the eve of its Centennial celebration that our sovereign nations are still here and are not a liability to the state but an asset.

"Just like the Council Oak that is alive and well today, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is alive and well in the City of

Tulsa and in the State of Oklahoma," said Creek Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis.

Seminole Pricipal Chief Kelly Haney backed Chief Ellis' remarks of pride in continued tribal production. "When you take a look at what goes into our state, there should not be one Indian who ever puts their head down," said Haney. "This is a great day."

The state of Oklahoma no doubt benefits from strong Indian influence and input. Combined tribal enrollment in our state is estimated at 1,047,949. The annual budget revenues from the Five Tribes are estimated at \$656,000,000 brought into the state, and that is excluding the budgets from the Choctaw and Seminole tribes. There are 49.5 counties under tribal jurisdiction, with the tribes employing roughly 23,138 people.

The Five Tribes are not only still here in 2006, but after 100 years are clearly still in "full force and effect."

Dream Keepers 2006 honors six Muscogee citizens

By Ruth Bible
MNN Staff Writer

TULSA - Six Muscogee Creek citizens were honored at the Greater Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Commission Dream Keepers 2006 9th Annual Awards Banquet held April 18,



Pictured, from left to right, are Melvin Bevenue, Ramona Mason, Matthew Littlehead, Cherrah Ridge-Quiett, George Coser, and Norean Tiger. Photo by Rita Williams

2006 at the OSU B.S. Roberts room.

The following is a list of the recipients and their awards: Melvin Bevenue received the Kenneth Anquoe Lifetime Achievement Award; Norean and the late Kelly Tiger of Holdenville received the Will Anquoe Humanitarian Award; Ramona Mason of Tulsa received the Rennard Strickland

graduates and college drop out studies.

Greater Tulsa Area Indian Affairs Commission Tulsa County Appointees, along with others Creek citizens, involved in the organization include Carol Morris and David Battist of Tulsa Creek Indian Community and Monetta Trepp of the National Indian Monument Institute.

State acknowledges tribal housing sovereignty

By Jason Salsman
MNN Staff Writer

The hallowed halls of the Oklahoma State Capitol building were echoing with voices of Native pride, specifically Muscogee (Creek) pride. Tribal leaders gathered along with state officials and native lobbyists to witness Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry sign the dotted line on Oklahoma Senate Bill 1706. The bill, which has been vigorously worked through by Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Oklahoma State Senator Frank Shurden, and Representative Ray Miller for the last three years, officially gives control of the Oklahoma State Housing Agency over to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority.

While being a groundbreaking and positive move for strengthening state and tribal relations, the bill also upheld tribal sovereignty. A fact not ignored by Chief Ellis. "The tribe doesn't want to be an enemy of the state, we want to be a partner," said Ellis. "By signing this bill, they (state) have shown that they want to as well, its great."

Governor Henry echoed the sentiments of Chief Ellis and stressed that his platform would always prioritize strong government to government relations. "Chief Ellis and I have formed a great friendship and have been working together in partnership to build a better state."



Pictured, from left to right, are State Representative Lisa Billy, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Chief A.D. Ellis, National Council Speaker George Tiger, and Governor Brad Henry

Photo by Gerald Wofford

Tribal Health System plans open house ceremony for newest clinic



Koweta Clinic

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Staff Writer

COWETA - "A Dream Realized" is the tentative theme for the open house ceremony of the Koweta Health Facility scheduled for Thursday, June 15 at 10 a.m. in Coweta, Oklahoma. The facility, over fifty-eight thousand square feet, has been in the constructive stages since the Muscogee (Creek) Nation first broke ground on the land, located just east of the city of Coweta, in December of 2004.

Although a ceremony is in the planning stages, Del Nutter, Director and CEO of Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health systems, says the medical facility will be in operation before then. "I would say the latter part of May we will start seeing patients," says Nutter, who at this point is also

preparing the furnishings and supplies for the clinic.

Hiring of staff is also one of Nutter's concerns. "About 75% of the staff has been hired and we are already training a number of them," said Nutter. "The training has been very detailed. You would be surprised at the amount of work that goes on behind the scenes."

Johnnie Greene, National Council representative for Wagoner, Rogers, and Mayes District, is part of the planning committee for the open house and looks forward to the potential of the clinic. "It's very exciting because we have a lot of Native Americans, not just our Creek people, who will be served," says Greene. "We have surrounding areas, like Wagoner and other small communities that won't have to travel great distances for services, so we're

excited.

Nutter agreed by saying they anticipate people being served from other areas like Sapulpa, Claremore and even Tahlequah.

The clinic will offer medical services in areas such as dental, radiology and x-ray, physical therapy, primary care, pediatrics, WIC, CHR, and diabetes. Pharmaceutical care will also be available.

Along with the open house ceremony, tentative plans are being made to provide shuttle trips from Okmulgee to Coweta on Friday, June 16, and Saturday, June 17 for anyone interested in touring the clinic. The open house ceremony is being planned in June to coincide with the Creek Nation Festival, June 15, 16 and 17.

For more information call (918) 756-4333.

Office of the Principal Chief

By: Chief A.D. Ellis



Chief A. D. Ellis

“Happiness is a perfume you cannot pour on others without getting a few drops on yourself”

Greeting my friends. May this day find you all healthy and in good spirits. I visited Eufaula elderly nutrition center last week and visited with many old friends. I regret that I cannot visit as many locations as I did when I was second chief but different jobs have different demands. Tomorrow will be a historic occasion when we travel to Oklahoma City and the Governors office will sign Senate Bill 1706. With this action by the State government, we assume all assets of the Creek Nation Housing Authority of Oklahoma.

This amounts to over 43 million dollars that our Housing division will receive and is also a strong action of tribal sovereignty. This is a first for tribes in Oklahoma and maybe the nation.

Governor Henry also last week accepted our offer for the new Tobacco Compact. This is now being assembled by our legal team and we probably will be joined by the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma. This compact and legislation must first be approved by our National Council before being signed by the Governor and myself.

I want to take this opportunity to encourage everyone to attend this years, 32nd Annual Creek Nation Festival. Tribal transit buses will be available

for the festival Friday and Saturday. Also, Tribal Transit buses will be available for the grand opening of the new Koweta Health Clinic, June 15.

Saturday, June 17, will be the second annual festival parade in downtown Okmulgee. Build your float or whatever and join the parade.

Also, don't forget to visit the totally remodeled front lobby and hall of honor at our tribal complex. We're very proud of our new look and hope you are as well.

When ground was broken for the new Koweta Clinic I wanted nothing to go wrong. I put together an oversight committee, chaired by Claude Sumner, our executive director. Mr. Sumner and his committee have really proved priceless for the great oversight and untold extra hours needed to complete this project three months before deadline. Everyone will be impressed and proud of this facility. A great job also for council members, Mike Berryhill, Johnnie Green and former council member Barbara Gillespie. Great things are happening everywhere in our nation and our total government is working together to achieve all ventures. May 25 is the date for our next Town Hall meeting at the Koweta community center at 6:30 p.m. All citizens are welcome to attend. This is another example of taking the government to the people.

Next California Creek meeting is August 5 & 6 in probably West Los Angeles. MVTO!

LEGAL NOTICES

BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA
APPLICANT: MARBET, LLC

RELIEF SOUGHT: POOLING

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SE/4 OF SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST, HUGHES COUNTY, OKLAHOMA.

CAUSE CD NO. 200602940

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting that the Commission enter an order pooling the interests and adjudicating the rights and equities of oil and gas owners in the Calvin, Senora, Earlsboro, Bartlesville, Savannah, Booch, Hartshorne, Upper Gilcrease, Lower Gilcrease, Wapanucka, Union Valley, Cromwell, Woodford, Misener, Hunton, Viola and Wilcox common sources of supply underlying the unit comprised of the SE/4 of Section 3, all in Township 7 North, Range 9 East, Hughes County, Oklahoma, and designating Applicant or some other owner of the right to drill as operator of the unit well.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the following special relief:

That the Applicant or some other owner of the right to drill be designated Operator of the unit well. The Applicant may request at the hearing that the order provide that any owner electing an alternative to participation in the well drilled there under shall be deemed to have relinquished all of its working interest and right to drill in the unit and common sources of supply named herein as to such well and any wells drilled subsequent thereto. The Applicant may also request that the order to issue in this cause provide to the operator a period of one (1) year from the date of the order in which to commence operations for the drilling of the initial well proposed hereunder.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be set before an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence and reporting to the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, First Floor, Jim Thorpe Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m., on the 16th day of May, 2006, and that this notice be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER

GIVEN that in the event this cause is uncontested, the Applicant, its Attorney, representatives, witnesses and other proponents of the Applicant may appear and conduct the hearing by telephone from the Tulsa office facility, 440 S. Houston, Suite 114, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this action contact SCOTT RICHEY, MARBET, LLC, 3316 Woodsboro, Norman, OK 73072, Telephone: (405) 485-9710, and/or Gregory L. Mahaffey, Attorney, 300 N.E. 1st STREET, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73104-4004, Telephone: (405) 236-0478.

CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA
JEFF CLOUD
CHAIRMAN
DENISE A. BODE
VICE CHAIRMAN
BOB ANTHONY
COMMISSIONER
DONE AND PERFORMED this 18th day of April, 2006.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

PEGGY MITCHELL
SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION

See Legal Continued On Page B6

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

RE: Tulsa District Representative's Rebuttal to Eli Grayson's November 30, 2005 e-mail that will be published verbatim in the next edition of the Muscogee Nation News.

First of all, the previous Business & Governmental Committee members, myself being one of them, by consensus, were in total agreement and approved the contents of this letter in December, 2005 in an official meeting. I feel that our tribal citizens should not be denied the opportunity to obtain knowledge that may prove beneficial in their decision making. Therefore, I am now conveying the letter in its entirety to you for your examination and judgment.

On Wednesday, November 30, 2005, an e-mail was sent to a California tribal citizen. Eli Grayson, the leader of a non-tribally sanctioned organization was the author of this correspondence. It contained unwarranted and erroneous information that lacked facts and was directed at both the Business and Governmental Committee, and the entire National Council. As a former committee member, we as a committee were dedicated to passing legislation that was in the best interests of the Creek Nation and its citizens. The committee was diligent and examined every piece of legislation carefully. After completing its study, the committee arrived at a decision whether to postpone, kill, table, or send a piece of legislation (bill) on to the full council for its consideration. However, one wonders if the e-mail was sent to all members of the California Muscogee Creek Association or to selected individuals only.

The Business and Governmental members took a sworn oath to be responsible and accountable to the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Mr. Grayson took it upon himself to pass judgment on the members who served on that committee even though he has only been a tribal citizen for approximately five (5) years, if that. Legislation mandating that Mr. Grayson refrain from using the title of "MeKKo" has been adopted by the National Council. This sacred title is usually reserved for ceremonial ground and tribal town chiefs only. As a recently enrolled tribal citizen, he shows a total lack of knowledge and disrespect for what cultural and traditional values mean to our Creek people. In the recent National Council elections, Eli Grayson sent out e-mails condemning certain candidates he felt were not favorable to the administration and endorsed their opponents by employing innuendo tactics.

Eli states in his e-mail that the National Council passed legislation to break the Nevada Gold contract. He goes on further to say that Chief Ellis will veto it. First of all, we did not pass legislation in the manner he described.

The legislative action we took that night was to "kill" legislation that dealt with the management agreement portion of the Nevada Gold contract as we felt it was not in the best interests of the Nation. Besides that, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis cannot veto legislation that has been

"killed" in the full committee of the National Council. The only legislation that the Principal Chief can veto is the Principal Chief's confidant and main advisor on the Nevada Gold project. What is his involvement and interest in making uneducated statements about a project he know very little, if any about? Does he have a financial stake in this project?

Mr. Grayson also referred to the Nation Council members as "freaks" and insinuated that the current and outgoing Council Members appeared to be receiving kickbacks and under the table payments. He also mentioned the chartered community casinos and smoke shops as being on the same level.

Also contained in the e-mail was an unfounded accusation that the National Council "oust-ed" Allen Harjo from his position as Deputy Director of Tribal Affairs. All we did was pass legislation expressing no confidence in his job performance.

Not satisfied with the bashing of our tribal government and its entities, he turned his attention toward one of our peers on the National Council, Rep. Tom Pickering, from the McIntosh District. He made some negative comments about the quality of the clothes that Mr. Pickering wears. Does he realize that many of our creek citizens dress casually? After all, it's not the clothes that make the man.

Eli Grayson conveyed in his e-mail that the National Council had received three (3) pay raises in one (1) year period. This is yet another of his ignorant, and uninformed statements.

National council executive session discussion may center on the Executive Branch, National Council, entities, or individuals. Mr. Grayson appears to be privy to this confidential information through an unidentified source. This committee has an utmost concern with sensitive information "leaking out" that is dispersed in our executive sessions. This confidential information is available only to the National Council members and invited individuals who are requested to remain in executive session. What is said in that room stays in that room! Somehow, someway, this information appears to be forwarded directly to Mr. Grayson who transmits it in his e-mails through his electronics network "well before the ink is

dry". This indicates to us there is an individual(s) somewhere within our tribal government structure who is divulging the contents of executive sessions that are being held by the National Council.

Unfortunately, this trend seemed to begin when National Council representatives visited California and met with the California Muscogee Creek Association members. It was stated the Association was in agreement that the Council should not renew the contract of Geoffrey Standingbear, National Council attorney. In no way, do we hold the members responsible for expressing their opinion on this issue. That is their prerogative. Could their decision have possible been influenced by information that was not factual in nature?

Beware! We would like to serve notice to all Muscogee (Creek) Nation chartered communities. Eli Grayson may suddenly appear at one of your community meetings to "rebel rouse" your members. In a way we feel sorry for this individual. Eli wants to belong so badly and have his hand in the day-to-day operations of our tribal government. To satisfy his ego, he should move to Oklahoma and run for elective office. Let him observe firsthand how our tribe functions on an everyday basis. This may influence him to cease and desist from hurling his e-mail projectiles toward our tribal citizens. Or perhaps he is sending these e-mails for therapeutic reason to offset the truth that he never will be a force in our tribal government. In the spirit of Christianity, we would hope Mr. Grayson is able to find an inner peace within himself to soothe his conscience. MVTO!

Ronald A. Clegghorn
Tulsa District Representative
National Council Muscogee (Creek) Nation

• • • • •

My name is Kirsten C. Kunkle, and I am voting member of the Nation. My ancestry includes my mother, Toni (Rowley) Kunkle, my grandfather, Richard Rowley, my great grandmother, Eloise Posey, and further back on the Posey line. I am an alumni of the voice performance department of Bowling Green State University

See Letters Continued On Page B6

Second Opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

Greetings my fellow citizens. I don't know if you have heard that my office has moved; I am presently in the former office of the BIA superintendent's office near Realty. I had an open house last Friday and it was a great success. I want to thank all the volunteers who helped in preparing the food it was delicious. My office phone number has changed; it is now (918) 732-7619 and my personal FAX number is (918) 732-7623. My e-mail is still the same: aberryhill@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Also, I have two new staff members and they are Odette Freeman, secretary and David Dunson, Assistant to the Second Chief. As always, my door is always open and everyone is welcome to come by.

Odette has been with my office for about three weeks and David has been with me for about two weeks. Odette is presently seeking her bachelor's degree in Business Administration and David holds a degree in Marketing. David is already hard at work seeing to the needs of our citizens and is eager to assist all citizens who need my assistance.

Recently, I had communication with one of our citizens who had a complaint about one of the teacher's in a public school system. This teacher was a Spanish teacher. The complaint was that the teacher was making statements like; "It is my opinion that the land be taken from the Indians and given back to the white people!" David attended a meeting with the school, the parent and the teacher. It was discovered that the teacher in question was a former Mexican citizen and no background check was made. This teacher had no American History and was not knowledgeable about Native American History.

When the Creek Nation starts any program, we do drug tests and background verifications. Our teachers are required to hold a degree in some type of education. The courses are closely scrutinized to see that it complies with the State educational requirements as a course curriculum. We can't just get someone off the streets and make them a teacher. This teacher is not too much aware of their own history because the Creeks hold a very prominent place in the history of Mexico. We sent contingents of military forces to assist in the revolution they were having with Spain. As a result of our efforts, the Creeks were given a vast amount of land in Mexico and it still exists today.

As a matter of fact, Poncho Villa was a frequent visitor to Okmulgee. My grandfather went to Mexico and when he returned one of his cousins had given birth to a son and he was asked to give him a name. He named him Jefferson Diaz Berryhill. The name Diaz was the name of the revolutionary president of Mexico.

Last Saturday, May 6, 2006, I attended the Sequoyah Alumni meeting as a nominee for the President of the Alumni Association. Wanda Jones was the other nominee, but I was voted in as the new Sequoyah Alumni Association. The office of President is for four years. I'll be glad to hear from any alumni from Sequoyah. I graduated in 1965.

Most of you know that the Baptist have an association of churches call the Creek, Seminole and Wichita Baptist association. I've always wonder about the Wichita's as being a part of an association began by the Creeks. The following cleared up my question and it written by an anonymous author and is entitled "History of John McIntosh".

William McIntosh was the Chief of the Creek Nation in Alabama and Georgia.

In February 1725, at Indian Spring, Georgia, the Chief William McIntosh unwittingly signed a document with the white man which he understood to be an agreement granting them the right to live in the same country. In sad realization, he learned that he actually had signed a deed to the Indian lands, relinquishing their own privileges of inhabitation and therefore were informed they would have to vacate.

Angered and embittered, the tribesmen gathered in mob protest and surrounded the double log house. When he saw they were going to harm him, he locked himself inside the building and the panicked mob set fire to the building.

When McIntosh could no longer bear the heat, he came out on the porch with both hands up and they shot him down. He lay until the burning building collapsed on him.

He had two sons, Chillie and N. D. McIntosh; and Chillie could speak English. He became the tribal spokesman and interpreter.

Dissatisfaction was mounting among the Creeks with the conditions of their native home in 1827. A scouting party came west to explore the region in the northeastern part of what is now Oklahoma with the view of making it their future home.

They returned to Georgia with a favorable report of their finding. Where upon Chillie McIntosh led seven hundred thirty-three Creeks to come and settle in a region northeast of Muskogee which is now known as Ft. Gibson. This party went by boat on Arkansas river, landing about February, 1830. Chillie made his home near Fame, Oklahoma, where his five children were born, William, John, Luke, Maria and another sister who's name is unknown.

John McIntosh was born August 11, 1833. In the year of 1866, he was converted and baptized. Two years later, he was ordained as a Baptist minister.

A request was made by Texas Baptist Convention that a mission work be started with the



Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

Wichita Tribe in western Oklahoma.

In the Muskogee Indian Association a request was made for someone to take the gospel to the Wichita Tribe.

After much prayer, John McIntosh volunteered to go to western Oklahoma.

John McIntosh's own words: For a long time I had the burning desire to preach the gospel to these wild tribes, yet, when the way was opened, I hesitated.

I began to count the cost of undertaking such a long journey from my home to the Wichita Tribe.

There were no roads. In fact, I did not know how far it was. I only knew they were somewhere on the western plains.

Besides, these were days of notorious outlaws and horse thieves.

After much prayer I was convinced that this was God's call, and summoning all the courage and faith I had, I determined to go and trust my Lord to give his blessing upon the effort.

I had heard much of the wild Indian's animosity toward the white people and feared my little bit of white blood might prejudice them against me. Also, I wore a citizen's clothing and my hair was short. With all this in mind, preparations were made for the trip.

A good horse was selected and my wife prepared my food supply, mainly dried beef, sofkey, blue dumplings and two canteens of water.

Early in July, 1874, I told my family good-bye and started on the hazardous journey of more than two hundred miles.

I passed the last settlement the second day. As I left the borders of the Chickasaw Nation, trackless plains lay before me.

The weather was very hot and dry and there was very little water for me and the horse.

On the evening of third day I encountered four outlaws, two white men and two negroes. They were driving a bunch of cattle which I was quite sure they had rustled. They admired my horse and talked about taking him along, but I told them who I was and my mission. The let me pass on.

The canteens of water had been exhausted. Both I and the horse were too tired to continue

See Opinion Continued On Page A3

OKMULGEE - THE FOLLOWING CONSIST OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE MARCH 21, 2006, EMERGENCY SESSION

MARCH 21, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WAS: ROBERT JONES, OKMULGEE; KEEPER JOHNSON, OKMULGEE; AND LARRY BIBLE, TULSA; SPEAKER GEORGE TIGER, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-049, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO COVER EXPENSES INCURRED BY AND/OR PARTIALLY FUND THE 2006 16th ANNUAL TRAIL OF HOPE NATIVE AMERICAN AA SOBRIETY CONFERENCE THAT WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 24, 25 AND 26 IN TULSA, OKLAHOMA - SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: RON CLEGHORN (\$1,000.00)

- KILLED ON THE FLOOR (22-0-0) TR 06-023, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TR 04-142 (A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CREATING AND AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATING TEAM ON TOBACCO COMPACT ISSUES WITH THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA) TO REFLECT THE CURRENT MEMBERS OF THE TOBACCO NEGOTIATING TEAM - POSTPONED FEBRUARY 25, 2006 REGULAR SESSION.

OKMULGEE - THE FOLLOWING CONSIST OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE MARCH 31, 2006, EMERGENCY SESSION- MARCH 31, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED ARE: RON CLEGHORN AND BO JOHNSON.

ABSENT WERE: ROBERT JONES, OKMULGEE; KEEPER JOHNSON, OKMULGEE; BO JOHNSON, OKMULGEE; CHERRAH RIDGE QUIETT, TULSA; RON CLEGHORN, TULSA; PAULA WILLITS, TULSA;

SPEAKER GEORGE TIGER, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (19-0-0) TR 06-010, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING MERRILL LYNCH AS THE UNDERWRITER OF BOND FINANCING FOR THE PERMANENT FINANCING AT THE NEW TULSA CASINO - Sponsor: George Tiger

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (19-0-0) NCA 06-051, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE HOLDENVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY CASINO PROJECT - Sponsor: Thomas Yahola (\$1,768,285.00)



National Council Speaker George Tiger Muscogee (Creek) Nation; Chairman Daniel Jones Ponca Nation; Chief Kaye Rhoades Sac & Fox Nation; Chairman Wallace Coffey Comanche Nation.

Photo by Rita Williams

From the desk of the Speaker:

Hensci!

It's official!! Oklahoma Senate Bill 1706 received a resounding unanimous 98-0 vote in the Oklahoma Legislature. The legislation was signed by Governor Henry on May 4 making it law. This historic Indian Housing legislation allows the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to be the first tribe to assume the liabilities and assets of the former Housing Authority.

On April 18 the Cherokee, Osage and Muscogee (Creek) Nation legislatures hosted the Second Tribal Summit in Oklahoma City. The summit has representation from 22 of the 39 Oklahoma tribes. It also afforded the opportunity for the tribes to acquaint themselves with the Oklahoma House of Representatives Native America Caucus. I was honored to serve as Moderator for this important Summit. Tribal leaders recognized the momentum of continuing such meetings by scheduling another summit on May 22

in Oklahoma City. Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes, Comanche and Sac and Fox nations will co-host the next summit. The goal will be to implement a state wide tribal organization.

Soon, I will be naming a Tribal Ordinance Task Force to review and evaluate the Nation's ordinances. Some ordinances have outlived their effectiveness and need to be amended or repealed. The goal of the Task Force will be to report and make recommendations to the National Council of their findings. The National Council will begin addressing the recommendations of the Task Force beginning in November of this calendar year.

According to and following



Speaker George Tiger

NCA 05-195 a Constitution Convention Commission has been seated and is currently holding meetings. Bill Fife, Okfuskee representative, is serving as Chair of the Commission. The Commission is in the process of scheduling public hearings throughout the Nation that enables all eligible voters to have the opportunity to make recommended changes to the constitution. The Commissioners are Roger Barnett, Creek District; Ronald Cleghorn, Tulsa District; Jeff Fife, Okmulgee District; Eddie LaGrone, Muskogee District; Thomas Yahola, Tukvptvce District; Tom Pickering, McIntosh District; Mike Flud, Chief of Staff; Bob Davis, Citizen and Patrick Moore,

District Judge.

While our Constitution has served us well for decades, on May 6, the Osage Nation held a signing ceremony of their new Constitution. I was honored to speak at this historic and momentous occasion in behalf of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I encouraged our Osage relatives to always remember their forefathers who gave the ultimate sacrifice that allows their government to exist and continue moving forward.

The annual Creek Nation Festival is rapidly approaching and the Committee has been meeting to finalize plans. Each year our Festival seems to be getting bigger and better. It is always a special time when our tribal members come back to visit and fellowship. I commend the committee and recognize their hard work in planning this year's festival. I hope your plans will include being at our Festival.

Until next time, MVTO!

NATIVE VOTE UNITED CAMPAIGN

By Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer for Muscogee (Creek) National Council

Its election time again and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is being visited with candidates running for office. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council office is becoming visible in this arena with the Native Vote United Campaign and materials. The first official voters information was at the Tribal Summit meeting hosted by the Cherokee-Osage-Creek Nation Tribal Legislatures. There was 23 tribes represented and many of them went back with posters, bumper stickers, buttons and brochures.

The National Congress of American Indians is combining their efforts nationwide for the national NATIVE VOTE 2006 campaign. The Native Vote structure will include the appointment of a statewide Native Vote coordinator for each targeted state. NCAI Legislative Assistant Cinda Hughes has been in contact with Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer for the Muscogee (Creek) National Council and will be working with her to coordinate the Eastern half of Oklahoma for the GOTV campaign.

The Native Vote United will be going to communities within the boundaries of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and most importantly to the Indian population



Terry Cook, Secretary for the National Council Office supports Native Vote United Campaign.

Photo by Rita Williams

at the grassroots level. Native Vote will be going to many Indian communities and functions, not only registering and encouraging voters to go to the polls but educating them on Indian issues that Tribes are facing today at the hands of our legislature. Native Vote United is a nonpartisan effort that supports American Indians to become better informed and active, participating in the voting process at the local, state and national level.

Not only is it important to vote, but its important to know who you are putting in office that when issues come up concerning tribes, our legislatures will be willing to know who we are, understand our sovereignty rights and are Indian friendly.

One of the main focuses will be targeting our youth. The Native Vote United is invited to be a part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Second Annual Youth Culture & Leadership camp on June 8th 2006 at the Tiger Mt. Ranch Resort in Henryetta, Okla. The Native Vote United will also be on the agenda for the Native American Youth Leadership Conference sponsored by the Oklahoma Employment Training Advisory Council in Connors, Oklahoma. For more information concerning Native Vote United and presentations at your communities, activities, reunions, fundraisers, etc., please contact Rita Williams at 918-758-1410 or 918-430-6583.

THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT:

The Voting Rights Act, adopted initially in 1965 and extended in 1970, 1975 and 1982, is generally considered the most successful piece of civil rights legislation ever adopted by the United States Congress. The Act codifies and effectuates the 15th Amendment's permanent guarantee that, throughout the nation, no person shall be denied the right to vote on account of race or color. In addition, the Act contains several special provisions that impose even more stringent requirements in certain jurisdictions throughout the country.

The right to vote is arguably the most significant characteristic of American citizenship. Though not explicitly guaranteed in the U.S. Constitution, the right to vote has been declared fundamental by the U. S. Supreme Court since it "is preservative of other basic civil and political rights." But despite its significance the franchise has been denied to many groups throughout our nations history, including blacks, women and Indians. However, whereas

blacks were formally enfranchised with the 15th amendment (1870) and women with the 19th Amendment (1920), Indians cannot claim one defining historical moment when their right to vote was constitutionally secured. Rather, the struggle for Indian suffrage has been an extraordinarily prolonged, complex, and piecemeal process that has yet to be fully resolved.

NATIVE AMERICAN: VOTERS INTIMIDATION:

Native Americans have recently stated that they continue to face obstacles to voting all across the country, saying that the Voting Rights Act must be upheld and not changed. Charon Asetoyer, a recent victim of voter intimidation based on her Native American heritage, compares her home in South Dakota to the South in the 1960's.

Tribe's worry that changes to the Voting Rights Act could affect their growing electoral clout, says the Associated Press. Native American has been highly influential in recent elections in South Dakota, Washington State, and Arizona.

Native Americans endorse the renewal of Voting Rights Act provisions because it protects them against strict voting laws that are increasingly appearing across the nation, such as Voter ID requirements in states like South Dakota, says the Associated Press. Many Native Americans who live on reservations do not have ID's and feel targeted by this law.

Section 5 is safeguarding the reintroduction of a Georgia provision to require Voter ID's after a previous proposal was blocked because of a judge who was influenced by a team of Justice Lawyers who found the Voter ID Law to be racially discriminatory, reported the Washington Post.

Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act "has been critical in protecting voter's rights across the country," says Debo Adegbile, associated director of litigation at the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund. "The preclearance stops discrimination before it happens, before jurisdictions can come up with new, ingenious methods of narrowing the franchise," Adegbile continues.

The Executive Director of the National Voting Rights Institute, Stuart Cornstock-Gay say, "To fight the new forms of discrimination, the full Voting Rights Act remains necessary. And it will take citizens from across the country contacting their legislators, writing letters to newspapers, and putting up a clarion call for a renewal of all portions of

the Voting Rights Act to ensure that voting rights in this country don't regress."

The National Congress of American Indians has always been on the forefront with the Native Vote across the States in Indian Country. One initiative they are working on will be the Election Protection. The Election Protection portion of the Native Vote program works on the legal aspects of the election, protecting our rights to vote, providing voter information, and monitoring the polls on Election Day. An example of one of the Election Protection projects is ensuring that all states that require identification to vote, accept Tribal ID's as a valid form of identification.

The Native Vote is critical in all states this year NCAI is placing particular emphasis on Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Washington and Wisconsin.

NEWS IN INDIAN COUNTRY:

By Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer for Muscogee (Creek) National Council

Johnson O'Malley funds restored during the House subcommittee on Interior appropriation markup

On May 4, House Subcommittee on appropriations for the Interior and Related Agencies Markup; Johnson O'Malley program funding was restored to the level of \$16.4 million for fiscal year 2007. In February 2006, the President proposed to eliminate the now restored Johnson O' Malley funding in his budget request to Congress.

Since the budget request release, NIEA had worked to make both the Senate and the House of Representatives aware of the beneficial and much needed services the JOM funding is able to provide. Testifying before both the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Interior and Related Agencies, NIEA demonstrated how JOM funding is used to provide vital programs designed to build self-esteem, confidence, and cultural awareness so that Indian students can grow up to become productive citizens within their communities.

Opinion Continued From Page A2

horse were too tired to continue on, so I decide to camp for the night. I staked my horse out, then lay down to rest. Being so thirsty for water, I was unable to sleep. I arose. While the horse was grazing, I walked down the Creek, thinking I might find some water. I came to a deep place where the sand was still moist. With my hands I dug about a food deep, but without signs of water. Moving on down the creek for about a half a mile, it seemed to get dryer, so I started back toward the horse. When I got back to where I dug in the sand and looked down, there was water. I layed down and drank until my thirst was quenched.

Several days later I again craved water. I took a lead bullet from my pocket and placed it in my mouth. The saliva moistened my tongue and I did not suffer for water.

When I arrived at what is now known as Oklahoma City, it was a bare prairie full of dangerous wild animals. I made camp for the night, and was lulled to sleep by the cries of owls, wolves and mountain lions, and my horse was frightened by a weird sound. He broke loose from his stake and ran away. There I was, left a foot, among the wild animals with the water and food supply low. I lay there in the night pondering my dire predicament. Tears rolled down my cheeks as I appealed to God, my constant companion, to guide and protect me.

Before day-break, I heard a noise nearby. I got up to see what it was. There stood my horse. As I rejoiced for happiness, I did not wait for daylight, I saddled the horse and continued my way toward my destination.

Finally, when I reached the Washita River, unable to cross with the horse and the pack, I went around the river on the north side near to the present site of Anadarko. I approached a band of Indians who surrounded me and threatened to kill me, and while some abused me. I pleaded with them something good. I

explained my mission, that I bring the word of God to the Indian people, and they let me pass on.

Upon my arrival to Wichita Agency, the government officials and the soldiers gave me cordial welcome and ministered to my needs.

There were but few Indians around the Agency. I learned that they were encamped some four miles north, I soon contacted one of the few Indians that could speak English, A Delaware Indian chief, Black Beaver, for interpreter. He could speak several dialects that were spoken around the Agency.

The Indian camp covered several acres. Tepees and grass wigwams were pitched in groups along the creek banks.

I did not receive a very hearty welcome, as they regarded me as another government official who had come to dictate to them. However, we were expected to eat at every camp we visited, as this was the Indian way.

At each of these visits I would tell them I was not a government man, but that I was sent by the Great Father above to tell the Indians how to worship him.

When we visited the Chief, we found him very bitter toward the white man. He said his people would continue their warfare until they killed all whit people. I told him it was useless for small Indian tribes to fight against the powerful white race.

He showed little concern until I picked up a handful of sand and said. This little handful of sand is like the Indian people and that big mountain of sand is like white race. If you continue to fight, their armies will come and kill all your people, even your women and children. He seemed willing to listen to me after that.

Late in August, 1874, the Chief sent his camp callers through the camp and called the Indians to come together and hear the man who had come to lead them from the Great Spirit.

New Tradition Clinic offers help to neuropathy sufferers

New Tradition Clinic is a unique clinic in Tulsa serving diabetic patients with foot problems and is owned and staffed by all women. Mariah Lee, the owner is a Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen and she started this clinic in November. The Doctor at the clinic is Dr. Lois Beard, who used to be the Diabetic Coordinator for the Diabetes Program at the Okmulgee Clinic from 1999 to 2005.

Diabetes can generally be maintained through diet and exercise however, when diabetes becomes more intense other measures need to be implemented. Untreated diabetes can cause many terrible things to happen. Problems range from a lack of feeling in the extremities (neuropathy) to vision and kidney problems. The neuropathy can lead to an injury developing into a wound. This is where the New Tradition Clinic comes

into the picture.

The therapy the clinic uses is a non-invasive, cost effective treatment program that will prevent / reverse even the worst case of restricted circulation in the extremities due to diabetes. It is NeuroCare. This is a small electrical muscle stimulator which has a higher output than any other electrical stimulator on the market today. Where other units invoke the active muscle fibers at a maximum of 150 volts the NeuroCare 1000 can invoke the inactive muscle fibers at a maximum of 440 volts. However, Amperage, which is the painful part of electricity, runs at 90 milliamps in other EMS units the NeuroCare runs at only 4 milliamps of current. With this low amps the patient can tolerate the 440 volts which achieves the remarkable healing which comes at this voltage. It

can increase local circulation, relax muscle spasms, maintain or increase range of motion, re-educate muscle, prevent or retard disuse atrophy, and help with immediate post-surgical stimulation of calf muscles to prevent venous thrombosis. The increase of local circulation helps non-healing wounds to granulate and heal and prevent amputations. The treatment is 45 minutes long and the plan of care is prescribed by the doctor.

The clinic serves local nursing homes in the Tulsa area. The treatment is also wonderful for incontinent patients. The treatment can prevent problems with a once a month treatment and can be the difference between keeping and loosing a foot.

For more information please call 918-439-9060 or visit the clinic at 2121 S. 125th E. Avenue Suite, 107, Tulsa, Ok. 74129.

Request for Muscogee Business information

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is accepting information on Muscogee owned and / or operated businesses and Muscogee business owners. If you, or someone you know, owns or operates a business and is a

Muscogee Citizen write in and let us know about them and let us let everyone else know about them as well. It doesn't matter if their business is a multinational corporation or doing bead work and selling it out of their house, all Muscogee owned or operated businesses are applicable.

Information on businesses will be ran as space permits and on a first come first served basis. Pictures will be ran as space permits.

Please send information to: Muscogee Creek Nation Communications Department, ICO: Joshua Slane, P. O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447.

Claudette Robertson M.A. Writer and Consultant

OKLAHOMA CITY — Claudette Robertson is available as a writer, editor, and/or consultant for ministry, business, historical organizations, and nonprofit programs.

She has a master in Social Sciences from Humboldt State University in northern California with an emphasis in American Indian History. During her time at Humboldt she developed her

own masters program which included going out and teaching history at the college of the Red Woods.

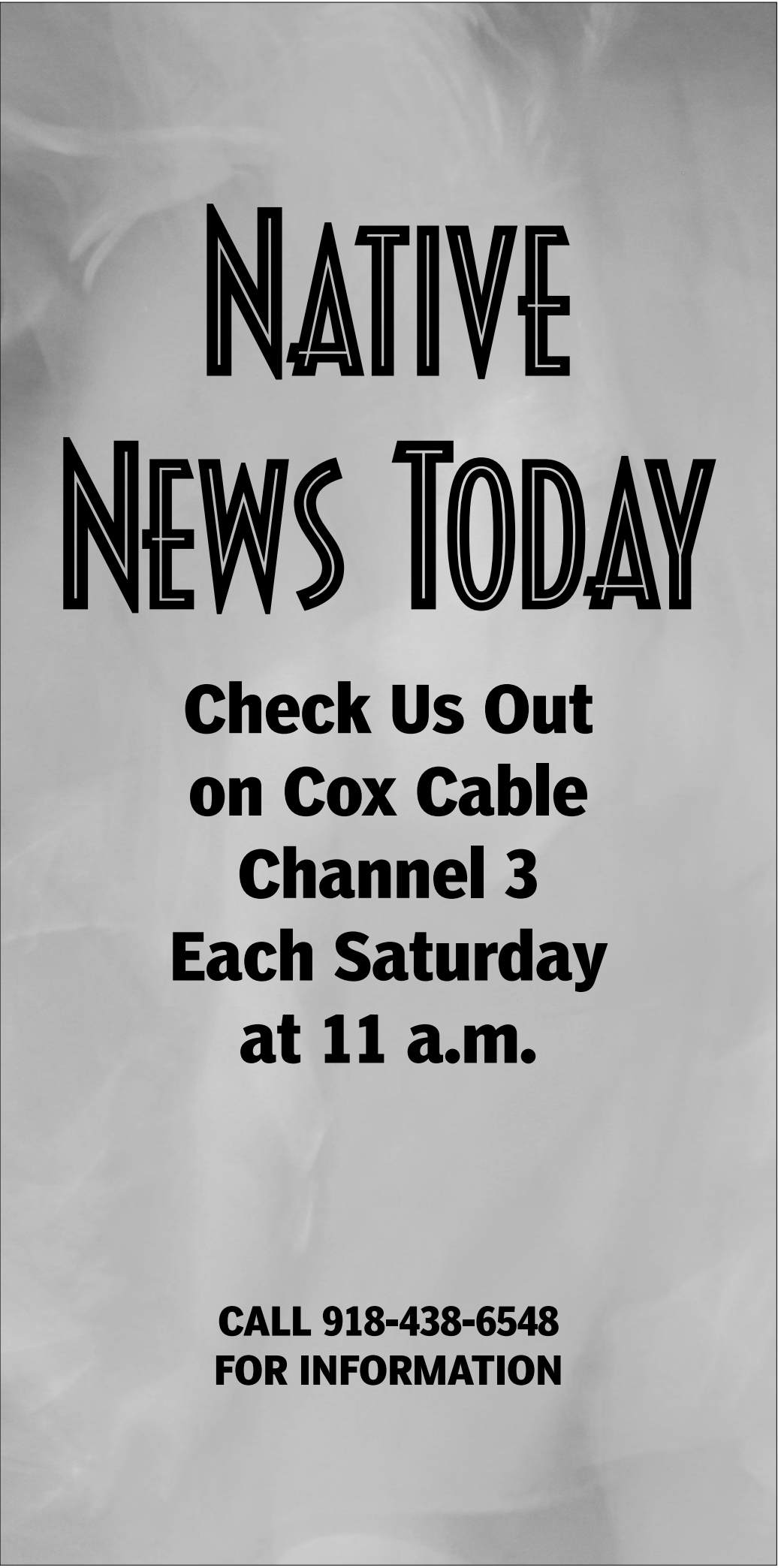
She has since worked for the Hoopa Valley Tribe writing grants for HUD, Social Services, and several other departments. She is also one of the three founders, and worked as the administrator of, the Muscogee Language Institute along with

George Bunny and Ted Isham.

She now lives in Oklahoma City, attends Oklahoma State University and is working on her doctorate in history and teaches at Oklahoma City Community College.

She has been writing grants since 1986.

To contact Robertson, call 405-773-1384 or 405-826-2424.



NATIVE NEWS TODAY

Check Us Out on Cox Cable Channel 3 Each Saturday at 11 a.m.

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Native American Attorneys: Small in Number, Not in Influence

By Patrick Folliard

Originally published by the Minority Corporate Council Association in Diversity and the Bar.

When leaders in law discuss ways to springboard success for diverse attorneys, usually the needs of women, African Americans, Hispanics, Asian Pacific Americans, and gays and lesbians are brought to the table. Although the legal profession has made some progress in increasing the number of women and minority attorneys in higher levels of law, there is one ethnic group who has not yet shared in that accomplishment: Native Americans. While Native Americans are one of the smallest ethnic groups in the nation today—making up a little less than one percent of the total population, according to 2004 estimated numbers from the U.S. Census Bureau — their representation in law is infinitesimal. In a recent article, the American Bar Association ascertained that of the one million lawyers in the United States, only 3.9 percent are African American, 3.3 percent are Latino, 3.9 percent are Asian American, while just 0.3 percent are American Indian.

“When people talk about diversity, Native Americans are mostly overlooked because our numbers are so small. It seems as if we aren’t even on the radar screen. The term I use for us is ‘the invisible minority,’” says Denette Mouser, assistant general counsel at Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., and a board member of the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA).

“Ordinarily, African Americans, Asian Pacific Americans, and Hispanics come to mind, but unfortunately we don’t hear much about Indians. Many times people just don’t ‘see’ Native Americans in their midst. Some of that has to do with the blood quantum required to be Native American—it’s very fractionalized. Because of that fractionalized blood quantum, the way many Native Americans look isn’t in keeping with the public’s expectation,” says Mouser.

What are the factors that keep Native Americans out of the legal profession, and what can leaders in diversity and law do to help? Mouser and several other Native American attorneys shared their personal and professional experiences to shed light on the roadblocks that aspiring Native American lawyers may face and how those barriers may be overcome.

“For me, one answer is pipelining Native American students. I’m a big proponent,” says Mouser, a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who also has Cherokee heritage. “Currently the focus often is only to make sure students finish high school, and later we can work on college and post-graduate degrees, where the numbers are very low. I hope to see that focus moving toward improving the number of Native American students in post-graduate programs in future generations.”

Further statistics bolster Mouser’s continuing enthusiasm. According to the American Bar Association, the number of full-time Native American law students almost doubled from a lackluster 554 from 1990 through 1991 to 1,048 from 2004 through 2005. Although these numbers have doubled, in comparison to other minority groups and the majority, they are unquestionably low.

Before joining Wal-Mart’s employment litigation group, Mouser was a trial attorney at Godwin Gruber, LLP (now known as Godwin Pappas Langley Ronquillo, LLP) and at Locke Liddell & Sapp LLP, both in Dallas. As a student at the University of Oklahoma College of Law, she assumed that she would come out and find work as the in-house counsel of an oil and gas company (a field in which she was acquainted previously as an executive secretary), but the adrenaline rush of the moot court experience led her elsewhere. One of those other places was the Supreme Court of her tribe, where Mouser finds time to sit as a Justice.

Tribes are sovereign entities and make their own laws. Of the over 560 federally recognized tribes, about 275 have their own courts. According to Mouser, in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation the judicial branch is populated by a

District Court that hears all matter of cases of family law, misdemeanor criminal law, and general civil law, and the Supreme Court, which hears all appeals and retains original jurisdiction for the tribe’s constitutional disputes. An attorney must be admitted to the Muscogee Nation Bar to practice in their courts—although some tribes require only a lay advocate license.

“Sitting on the Court is an honor,” says Mouser. “It offers an opportunity to serve my tribe, and another way to keep my Indian heritage alive in my life.”

Native American attorneys are usually the first in their family to attend college. Often they receive stipends from their tribes to help with educational costs. However, the amounts vary significantly depending upon the wealth of the tribe. Throughout their careers, many serve as an interface between Indian culture and corporate America or the federal government.

When speaking to groups of young students, Barry Brandon, senior vice president and general counsel of Seneca Gaming Corporation, repeats the same story. He explains to these students that for him, becoming a lawyer was a search to discover his own identity.

Early on, as an enrolled member of the Oklahoma-based Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Brandon wanted to understand his place in society and his unique relationship to the federal government. Even as a boy growing up in Oklahoma and later in a suburb of Seattle, Wash., Brandon was aware of being different from his friends.

“Looking at my dark skin and almond eyes, kids asked: ‘What are you? Are you Mexican? Japanese?,” remembers Brandon. “From a young age, that prompted me to ask a lot of questions about my background. Coupled with a close relationship with my Creek grandmother, it made me curious about what it meant to be an Indian.”

Throughout his childhood, Brandon’s grandmother recounted stories of the injustices committed against Creek Indians earlier in the 20th century. When she was a girl, she was extracted from her parent’s home and placed in a state-run boarding school, where she was forcibly assimilated into a strict brand of white culture and punished for speaking in her native tongue. Essentially, she was taught not to be a Native American.

After learning he was accepted to law school at the University of Washington in Seattle, Wash., the first person Brandon called was his grandmother. Her first words were: “Get my land back.” She was speaking for many tribes when she asked her grandson to use his degree to benefit Native Americans, and according to Brandon, her words shaped his entire career.

In his first month as a young attorney at the Department of Justice in 1994, Brandon won a case that involved returning land belonging to the Seneca Nation of Indians in Salamanca, N.Y. He was so successful that the clan mother of the Bear Clan of the Seneca Nation adopted him. Coincidentally, the grandfather Brandon never knew was a full-blood Seneca.

Prior to getting on board with Seneca Gaming Corporation, Brandon was a partner at Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP in Washington, DC, where he maintained a national practice representing tribes on gaming, land, and water rights, as well as some lobbying. He initially went to the firm with the idea of assisting with an Indian practice.

For Brandon, working with tribes has been very gratifying, and, according to him, tribal members have been pleased as well: “Imagine, tribal members—who for many years have been used to seeing non-Indian attorneys come to represent them, and perhaps feeling some skepticism to what their true motivations were—actually seeing another brown face who is also a tribal member enrolled in a federally recognized tribe coming to assist them with legal matters. It has proved very meaningful.”

“There are not many degrees of separation in the legal community. The circle is small,” says Brandon. “My Indian blood lent to my credibility, and a trust factor evolved, allowing for tribal leadership to feel comfortable with discussing certain things with me and taking my legal

recommendations. My coming to the Seneca Nation is the result of that and hard work.”

Seneca Gaming Corporation is the parent corporation to three subsidiary corporations, each of which is authorized by tribal charter as individual casinos in New York State. The casinos in Niagara Falls and Salamanca are currently operational, and recently in Buffalo, ground was broken on a third. The tribe’s 7,400 members wholly own the corporation.

“Seneca Gaming came out of a compact that the tribe negotiated with the state of New York, which is the usual threshold requirement of tribes that want to game,” Brandon explains. “It’s required that tribal leadership sit down with the state where they reside and reach an agreement as to the scope of gaming, regulatory functions, and licensing issues. What made our compact extremely unique is that the Seneca Nation of Indians not only negotiated for a casino to be built on reservation land, but they also negotiated to go off the reservation and open casinos on what once were indigenous lands. We’re permitted by federal law to build and operate casinos on those territories. This has never been done before.”

Over the last five years, Brandon has moved from the compact to actually building and operating casinos—starting as an outside attorney and then in-house as general counsel for the last year and a half. At the time of this interview, Seneca Nation Gaming was just days away from opening a 605-room luxury hotel and more restaurants to complement the casinos in Niagara Falls. According to Brandon, the corporation employs over 4,000 people, and if it were possible to sell the corporation on the open market, it would be worth well in excess of one billion dollars.

As general counsel, Brandon has the same responsibilities of any general counsel at a comparably sized company. He provides legal advice to senior management and the board of directors—who are all Seneca Nation citizens—on a wide range of issues, including litigation, labor, and human resources. All company contracts route their way through the general counsel’s office as well.

Brandon confirms that on paper, the fortunes of the Seneca Nation of Indians have risen dramatically. At this time, the nation has decided to reinvest in itself; if done wisely, the future is more than promising.

“As I’ve gone through law school and practiced law, my grandmother’s words have come to mean so much more to me,” says Brandon. “To some extent, I’ve come to understand exactly how profound they were.”

“Working for tribes motivates people to go to law school, particularly if you want to help other Indian people get ahead,” says Kathleen Supernaw, in-house counsel of the Osage Nation. “I worked for Indian tribes for 15 years before going to law school [at the University of Oklahoma]. Gradually I had become interested in case law, Indian law, and federal regulations, and thought a law degree would be helpful. I tell you, law school is not something I had in mind since kindergarten.”

With a broad background in Indian affairs and knowledge of administrative processes, Supernaw is the perfect fit to assist with the day-to-day business operations of the Osage Nation, for whom, like most tribes, the workings of the federal government is a mystery. As in-house counsel, Supernaw advises the Chief and Tribal Council as well as the tribal program directors who are in need of varying legal advice. She is generous with her time and services, because the tribe is exercising its sovereignty and is in particular need of someone with a grasp of tribal business.

When not assisting the Osage Nation, Supernaw is director of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s legal program at the University of Tulsa College of Law. A Muscogee (Creek) citizen, Supernaw takes pride in her tribe’s funding of a student-staffed legal clinic that provides legal services to Creeks, primarily in tribal court.

“Ever since I was in law school, I’ve tried to be a mentor,” says Supernaw. “I’ll help in any way I can. Every time another Native American pursues higher education, I’m encouraged.”

Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. Summer Youth Diabetes Prevention Camps

The Community Diabetes Prevention program for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will offer four different three day summer youth camps that stress healthy lifestyles and diabetes prevention. The first two days will include diabetes prevention education, cultural activities, and fun. The last day will be a field trip to Big Splash in Tulsa, Ok.

These camps will be for any

American Indian youth, 10-15 years of age and live within the Creek Nation boundary. Each camp will take the first 35 youth to sign up.

Okemah Youth Camp will be held July 17 through 19. To register for the Okemah Youth Camp call (800)-219-9458, extension 456.

Okmulgee Youth Camp will be held July 24 through 26. To register for the Okmulgee Youth

Camp call (918)756-9911, extension 255.

Eufaula Youth Camp will be held July 31 through August 2. To register for the Eufaula Youth Camp call (918)689-2540, extension 254.

Sapulpa Youth Camp will be held August 7 through 9. To register for the Sapulpa Youth Camp call (918)224-9310, extension 242.

National Council Act assists citizens with diabetes and increased foot risks

OKMULGEE - National Council Act 06-029 provides \$648,689.40 to address the needs of Creek citizens that have diabetes and increased foot risks. Creek citizens living within the MCN jurisdictional boundaries are eligible to benefit from these funds.

Mr. Keeper Johnson, Okmulgee National Council Representative, sponsored this foot care legislation that was approved by the full Council on March 31, 2006. Mr. Johnson had found out that shoes were not available through Diabetes Grant funds for individuals who have loss of protective sensation only. He included shoes for these persons in his proposal. Shoes and inserts will be available for persons with higher risks. Prosthetics will be much easier to obtain for those who have amputations.

The OSU Pedorthic, Orthotic and Prosthetic Clinic will be the main provider for the lower limb and foot care supplies. The OSU clinic began their service this year and plans to provide a wide range of types and sizes of shoes and prosthetics. American Indians who are not Creek will continue to use American Foot Care Inc. to provide their shoes and inserts. Creeks may use either of these resources to obtain these services. Other resources that may be used as third and fourth options are the Vocational Rehab and Emergency Medical Assistance Programs.

Establishment of a wound care service within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System is



National Council Representative, Keeper Johnson

clinics in the past 3 years. Persons with diabetes are at risk for several significantly debilitating complications. One of these complications is amputation of the lower limb. The RPMS data identified ten American Indians having diabetes within the MCN jurisdiction who have had major amputations in each of the last 2 years. This rate of 3.3/1000 compares similarly to national surveillance data of 3.2 in 2002.1 The goal for Healthy People 2010 is 1.8/1000.

Mr. Johnson proposed that the Tribe provide 51% of the estimated costs listed below and seek third party payment for the rest. The stages of foot risks, preventive care, and related costs for the MCN population using estimates projected from data in cited studies and clinical experience of providers in this area of Oklahoma are described in the table below.

Summary of MCN Lower Extremity and Foot Care Costs

(Using 3000 persons as population with diabetes in MCN)

Level of Risk

(Estimated Percent of

Diabetes Population having this Risk) Number in MCN

Estimated Cost using National Data

Diabetes with no additional risk

(61%) 1830

Diabetes Care Costs

Diabetes with Loss of rotection Sensation (LOPS) only

(20%) 600

\$240,000.00

Diabetes with Loss of Protective Sensation (LOPS) and other risks)

(12%) 360

\$186,000.00

Diabetes with Loss of Protective Sensation

with previous ulcer

(6%)180

\$72,000.00

Wound Care for active wounds

(1%) 30

\$83,940.00

Amputations

10**

\$650,000.00

Prosthetics

10**

\$40,000.00

Estimated Total Cost

\$1,271,940.00

**RPMS data



Left to right = Sheryl Sharber, Dorothy Williams, Kathy Putnam, Meggin Bean, Jim Schmidtkofer, Tina Gordon, Kryston Auton, Dana Kelly)

Creek Nation celebrates National Nurses Week

OKEMAH - On May 6 the Creek Nation Community Hospital and the Okemah Community Clinic joined the American Nurses Association in celebrating National Nurses Week, which was held May 6-12.

The purpose of National Nurses week is to raise awareness of the value of nursing and help educate the public about the role nurses play in meeting the health care needs of the community and surrounding areas in which they live and work.

National Nurses Week is celebrated annually on the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the Founder of modern nursing. This year's theme for the week is iNurses Strength, Commitment, and Compassion.i This them embodies what it means to be a nurse today. Today's nurses must have the strength to care for patients during times of disaster

and crisis; they must have commitment to remain involved in continued education throughout their career. They must have the compassion it takes to provide hands on patient care at the bedside, as they have done throughout the centuries. The Nurses at the Creek Nation Hospital and Clinic are dedicated to their patients and to the profession which they have chosen.

In honor of the dedication, commitment and the timeless efforts of all nurses the Creek Nation Hospital and Clinic are proud to recognize our nurses during this week and all nurses for the quality of work they provide seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Our Nursing Staff consist of the following: Auton, Kryston ort/cst; Barnett Patty,LPN; Been Shirely, CRT; Bridgeford Alma, RN; Farris, Rhinda, LPN; Hill Maxine, LPN; Fixico June,

LPN; Grace Tom, RN; Kelly Dana, LPN; Hoagland Pat, LPN; Isham Arlene, LPN; Williams Dorothy, LPN; Simpson Lucinda, LPN; Stafford Donna, LPN; Magness Mary, RN; Bean Meggin, RN; Given, Martha, LPN; Kenneda Charlotte, LPN; Harjo Linda, LPN; Pack Darrellyn, LPN; Lowe Brenda, LPN; Larney Abbie LPN; Lee Jacquetta, RN; Miller Heather, RN; Martin Becky, RN; McElyea Teri, RN; Putman Kathy, RN; Jumper Loretta,LPN; Ramirez Tarsha, LPN; Roberts Kathy, LPN; Schmidtkofer Jim, RN; Sharber Sheryl RN; Slayton Laura, RN; Stafford Sandy, RN; Cheatman Pat, RN; Gordon Tina, RN; Immel Sharon, RN; Walker Linda, RN; Pound Debbie, RN; Watson Konowa, LPN; Devine Sheila, MA; Giles Susan, Unit Coord.; Schmidtkofer Eva, Clerk; Sands Lisa, Clerk

Medicare and Medicaid Benefits for Tribal Citizens

Medicare is a federal health insurance program. It is ran by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Three months before a person turns 65 years of age they should visit their local Social Security Administration (SSA) office to enroll.

There are two parts to Medicare. The two parts are Hospital Insurance (Part A) and Medical Insurance (Part B). Part A covers Inpatient Hospital Care, Skilled Nursing Care, Home Health Care and Hospice Care. Part B covers Doctor's Services, Outpatient Services, Durable Medical Equipment and Home Health Care.

"It is just a matter of qualifying when Creek citizens sign up for Medicare Part B and D. Using Medicare part B would allow the Tribe to bill Medicare and generate more money for the Health system. It would save millions of dollars for our Contract Health," said Richard O'Mara, Performance/Improvement Officer for the Division of Health. "When it used within the Tribal System the deductible is paid by the Nation as well as the co-payments. It costs nothing extra to the patient."

While Medicare does cover a wide range of medical services; some items or services are excluded from Medicare coverage by law. Services covered under certain conditions include eye glasses (only after cataract surgery), Chiropractic services (only manipulation of spine), ambulance services (must be bed confined or a emergency), routine foot care (with certain medical conditions), services rendered outside the United States (with certain exceptions), routine screenings (have various time limits), screening mammograms, colorectal cancer screening, diabetes training and supplies, bone mass measurements, flu vaccinations, pneumococcal vaccinations, Hepatitis B vaccinations, Glaucoma screenings and medical nutrition therapy.

Medicaid and Medicare are not the same. Actually, they are different programs. Medicaid is a state-run program that provides hospital and medical coverage for people with low income and little or no resources. Each state has its own rules about who is eligible and what is covered under Medicaid. Some people qualify for both Medicare and Medicaid. For more information about the Medicaid program, contact your local medical assistance agency, social services or welfare office.

If a person can not afford to

pay your Medicare premiums and other medical costs, the person may be able to get help from the state. States offer programs for people who are entitled to Medicare and have low income. The programs may pay some or all of Medicare's premiums and also may pay Medicare deductibles and coinsurance. To qualify, you must have Part A (hospital insurance), a limited income, and in most cases, their resources (such as bank accounts, stocks and bonds) must not be more than \$4,000 for a single person or \$6,000 for a couple.

For information about these programs from the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), ask for a copy of You could save in Medicare expenses (Publication No. CMS-10126) by calling the Medicare toll-free number, 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800- 633-4227). If you are deaf or hard of hearing, you may call TTY 1-800-486-2048.

Only your state can decide if you qualify for help under these programs. To find out, contact your state or local medical assistance (Medicaid) agency, social services or welfare office.

You may also be able to get extra help paying for the annual deductibles, monthly premiums and prescription co-payments related to the Medicare prescription drug program (Part D). You may qualify for extra help if you have limited income (tied to the federal poverty level) and limited resources. These income and resource limits change each year.

If you have both Medicaid with prescription drug coverage and Medicare, Medicare and Supplemental Security Income, or if your state pays for your Medicare premiums, you automatically will get this extra help and you don't need to apply.

For more information about getting help with your prescription drug costs, call Social Security's toll-free number or visit our website. You also can apply online at Social Security's website.

If you are already getting Social Security retirement or disability benefits or railroad retirement checks, you will be contacted a few months before you become eligible for Medicare and given the information you need. You will be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B automatically. However, because you must pay a premium for Part B coverage, you have the option of turning it down.

Once enrolled in Medicare, you will receive a red, white and blue Medicare card showing

whether you have Part A, Part B or both.

You should also contact Social Security about applying for Medicare if you are a disabled widow or widower between age 50 and age 65, but have not applied for disability benefits because you are already getting another kind of Social Security benefit; you are a government employee and became disabled before age 65; You, your spouse or your dependent child has permanent kidney failure; you had Medicare medical insurance in the past but dropped the coverage; you turned down Medicare medical insurance when you became entitled to hospital insurance (Part A).

When you first become eligible for hospital insurance (Part A), you have a seven month period (your initial enrollment period) in which to sign up for medical insurance (Part B). A delay

on your part will cause a delay in coverage and result in higher premiums. If you are eligible at age 65, your initial enrollment period begins three months before your 65th birthday, includes the month you turn age 65 and ends three months after that birthday. If you are eligible for Medicare based on disability or permanent kidney failure, your initial enrollment period depends on the date your disability or treatment began.

If you accept the automatic enrollment in Medicare Part B, or if you enroll in Medicare Part B during the first three months of your initial enrollment period, your medical insurance protection will start with the month you are first eligible. If you enroll during the last four months, your protection will start from one to three months after you enroll.

Headlands Indian Health Careers Program begins in June

NORMAN nIndian Health Careers Program will be held June 4 through July 29, 2006, on the OU Norman campus.

American Indian high school seniors and first-year college students that are interested in pursuing a career in the health professions are encouraged to apply for this intense eight week enrichment program offering mini block courses in calculus, chemistry, physics and biology. These courses are designed to increase the student's knowledge and prepare them for the required college-level math and science coursework in the pre-health programs.

Students again will gain experience in the laboratory,

strengthen their communication and writing skills, and attend interactive presentation at the OU Health Sciences Center colleges of Public Health, Allied Health, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Nursing. Field excursions to health clinics and hospitals also are included.

Travel, lodging and meal expenses will be provided for each student accepted into the program.

The Headlands program is sponsored by the Oklahoma Native American Export center with funding from the National Center of Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health.



OKMULGEE – The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H Program will be held June 19-21 at the OSU- Okmulgee campus and the Tribal Complex. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Division and the Creek Council House museum will be conducting programs on Creek history, culture, food, language, art, stickball, Creek songs, and hymns. Nationally known Creek artist, Joy Harjo will be conducting classes in performance art to be demonstrated by the students. At the end of the camp, there will be a presentation and dinner given by the students. The camp is free to the first 50 creek youth to apply. For more information, contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 4-H Coordinator, Rick Clovis, at (918)-521-7322.

Reach Starla Bush at: E-mail: sbush@muscogeenation-nsn.gov, Phone: 918-732-7643

Frequently Asked questions about MCN housing programs

How do I know if I am eligible for any housing programs?

Although each program has its own specific requirements here are some of the basic eligibility requirements.

- An applicant must qualify as a family (includes a family with or without children, an elderly family, a near elderly family a disabled family and a single person). At least one family member must be of Indian descent.
- An applicant must be 18 years of age.
- An applicant must be low income living in or wish to live in the Creek Nation boundaries except for the Mortgage Assistance Program which includes the state of Oklahoma.
- Applicant's income must be within the national median income as set by HUD. Income limits are adjusted for family size and updated on an annual basis.
- The applicant will be required to provide all information requested on the application, necessary forms and certifications. All information and statements made by the applicant are subject to verification.

How do I apply?

Each applicant wishing to participate in any Housing program must submit in person, a complete, signed, and dated written application to the Housing Division Admissions Department for processing according to specific program eligibility requirements. INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL BE RETURNED.

Can I apply if I currently live out of state?

An applicant may apply for any of the Housing Program services without presently living within the Creek Nation but if determined eligible must be willing to live and accept services within the Creek Nation boundaries. In the case of the Mortgage Assistance Program the applicant must be willing to purchase or build, and live within the State of Oklahoma.

If I am a tribal member other than Creek but within the Creek boundaries am I still eligible for a home?

You may apply and be eligible; however, preference will be given to Creek citizens with families, regardless of approval date. According to policy, preferences are given in this order:

- (1) Eligible Creek Citizens who are involuntarily displaced by government agencies or natural disaster, including fires.
- (2) 4/4 Creek large families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped.
- (3) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped 1/2 or more.
- (4) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped less than 1/2
- (5) Single 4/4 Creek Citizen, non-elderly, non-disabled, or non-handicapped.
- (6) Single less than 4/4 Creek Citizen
- (7) Other Indian Tribes

Do I have to already own land to be eligible for a new construction home?

No, in most cases new construction houses are built on land acquired by HACN. You may use land that you have readily available but it must meet all environmental requirements. What is donated property? Property that applicant is willing to donate to Housing in order to build them a home. Is it faster if I have land to build a home on? If title to the land is free and clear the process may be speeded up. Undivided, restricted, or unprobated land will often slow the process.

If I want to donate property how much will I need?

Because rural sites will require an individual sewage system housing recommends at least 2 1/2 acres. If the soil will not support a septic system an alternative system must be constructed requiring the 2 1/2 acres.

What size house would I receive?

House size is determined by number of bedrooms. The number of bedrooms is based on family size.

What happens to the house if the homebuyer dies before paying the house off?

When you sign the contract to move into your house, you will select one successor (a person you want the house to go to in the event of death). Your successor has to be an immediate family member, basically a grandparent, parent, brother, sister, or child, and a member of a federally recognized tribe. The chosen successor must also meet all Homeownership program eligibility requirements.

Does Housing provide insurance?

Yes, for the duration of the twenty five year contract. Amerind Insurance, based out of New Mexico covers the structure only, not the contents. We encourage you to purchase renters insurance for the contents. You may also contact Amerind for renters insurance. In addition, property taxes are also paid throughout the contract.

Does Housing provide any home repair services?

The Rehabilitation of Privately-Owned Homes Program provides assistance to existing homeowners. The scope

of items included under the program may include roof repair, foundation repair, plumbing, electrical, sewer systems, HVAC repairs, or installations. Not included under the program are general maintenance, cosmetic repairs, or replacement of major appliances, such as, refrigerator, stove, washer, or dryer.

Does Housing have any home loan programs?

Housing has two home loan programs. The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help eligible clients with grant

assistance for typical mortgage loans costs, such as down payments and closing costs. The recently developed Direct Lending Program provides eligible clients a 0% loan for 25 years to construct or purchase their own home according to HUD regulations. Direct Lending clients must meet the same eligibility requirements as the Lease with Option to Purchase program.

How do I find out more information about these programs?

Contact the Housing Division at 918-756-8504, Toll-free 1-800-259-5050, or go to our website at www.creeknation-housing.org and email us at webmail@creeknationhousing.org g. Our offices are located at 2951 N. Wood Dr., Okmulgee, OK.

Muscogee Nation News
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK
74447

HUD - 184 Native American Mortgage Program*

Need Cash Refinance*

Other Programs also available - 100% financing/no money down*

GOOD CREDIT, BAD CREDIT OR BANKRUPTCY WE CAN HELP

Special Native American Financing Department

Bilingual. Call today to qualify. Ask for a 184 Loan Officer.. *W.A.C..



HOMESTEAD Mortgage Services, Inc.

"Tahlequah's oldest and most experienced lender"

171 W. Fourth Street - Tahlequah, OK 74464

Office: (918)456-5599

Cell: (918)348-1074

Toll Free:(800)259-2455

Helping our Tribal Citizens Realize the Dream of Homeownership

Providing help through the Mortgage Assistance Program

Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

P.O. Box 297

Okmulgee, Ok 74447

1-800-259-5050

918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the




MUSCOGEE(CREEK)NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

- Be a first time home buyer.
- Live within the state of Oklahoma.
- Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
- Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
- Preference given to Creek Citizens.

Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division/Authority is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact

Lenora McPerryman

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing

(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

Higher Education Program Information

The Creek Nation Higher Education Administration serves college students who are tribal members residing and attending Colleges and Universities in the United States. Our purpose is to provide supplemental financial assistance to students of Creek descent pursuing a college and post college level education.

HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP (BIA)
Maximum amount of Award per semester/quarter:
\$0 - \$1000 Dependent
\$0 - \$1500 Independent
\$0 - \$2000 Married

Requirements:
Possess CDIB Card
(Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood)
Possess Creek Tribal Enrollment Card

Recent Photo
Letter of Acceptance from College /University
High School Transcript or GED Certificate and College Transcript (if prior college)
Signed Privacy Statement attached to application
Financial need must be established through the University Financial Aid

Students who receive the grant are expected to earn 15 hours per semester or quarter with a GPA of 2.0 or more. The awards must show academic progress: Students earning less than 15 hours or less than 2.0 shall be placed on probation. Students earning less than 12 hours or less with a GPA of less than 1.0 shall be suspended, unless student can provide a documentary evidence of illness. The Higher Education

Scholarship is limited to 10 semesters, 150 hours or Bachelor's degree and for first time degrees. (Limit for a junior/community college is 5 semesters or 60 to 65 hours or associate degree).

Closing Date: Summer June 1st & Fall June 1st

TRIBAL GRANT

The Tribal Funds Grant will award applicants who are enrolled tribal citizens.

Maximum amount of Award per semester:

Full-Time Students (12 hrs or more): \$1,000 per semester/quarter

Part-Time Students (less than 12 hrs): \$ 500 per semester/quarter

Requirements:
Possess Creek Tribal Enrollment Card
Provide Recent Photo
Signed Privacy Statement attached to application
Education Plan attached to application
Verification of enrollment is established through the University and College Registrar's Office

The student must maintain a 2.5 GPA for program compliance. It is the student's responsibility to submit grades from the previous term for continuance of program. Students earning a term GPA below 2.5 and 1.5 shall be placed on probation. Those earning below 1.5 GPA for the term and those withdrawing without a valid medical reason shall be suspended from the program. To become eligible for reinstatement, student must finance self and provide grades earning 12 hours at 2.5.

The award may be used to supplement other sources of aid. This program is limited to 10 semesters per student.

Closing date: Summer June 1st & Fall June 15th

INCENTIVE GRANT

The Tribal Incentive Grant

will award enrolled tribal citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation who meet the grade point requirement of a 3.0 or more for the current term at an accredited college or university.

Maximum amount of Award per semester:

Full-Time Students (12 hrs or more): \$500 per semester/quarter

Part-Time Students (less than 12 hrs): \$250 per semester/quarter

This program is limited to 10 semesters. Students may apply within 45-days after the end of term.

Applications request:
MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION HIGHER
EDUCATION
ADMINISTRATION
P O Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447.
Phone #918-732-7689
or
cdavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov

All programs operate on availability of funds.

National Council Approves Higher Education Grants

The Higher Education Administration is announcing the availability of Summer 06 Tribal Grants due to NCA 06-088 just recently approved by the National Council. The grants are for attendance at 2-year junior/community colleges and 4-year universities. Please apply by June 1st, 2006. Application forms are available on-line at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Website. The continuing students on our program were sent renewal forms and if plans are to attend Summer 06; please mark on the form and return as soon as possible. The higher education staff congratulates all the graduates and wishes them a successful future.

Creek Nation Higher Education Awards Citizens at Bacone

MUSCOGEE- On Friday, May 5th, Student Support Services of Bacone College hosted a graduate luncheon to honor its graduates as well as Native students who received tribal funding. SSS is a federally- funded program who work with low-income / 1st generation students by offering career, personal, academic, and financial aids assistance. Representatives from Choctaw, Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, Eastern Cherokee, and United Keetoowah tribes were also there to present their graduates with certificates of accomplishment as well as words of wisdom. The featured speaker was Nicholas Lewis, Bacone Track coach, who encouraged the grads to seek further education. This is the 2nd annual luncheon which will continue to grow. Muscogee Creek Nation Higher Education Representatives Jerri On the Hill and Christine Durden presented certificate of recognition for achievement of excellence to two Muscogee Creek Nation students Tammy Wheeler and Elizabeth Rhoden for completion of excellence.

2006 Senior and College Graduates

Name: _____
Roll #: _____ *School:* _____
Clan: _____ *Tribal Town:* _____
Parents: _____
Grandparents: _____
Awards: _____
Activities: _____
Plans: _____

(Please attach a color or black and white photo)

It's that time again our MNN is seeking submissions from Muscogee High School and College graduates for its annual graduates section. Deadline for submissions is June 5th. Mail submissions to P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or email to: mbible@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Electronically mailed submissions must be saved as a Word Perfect document. For any questions contact Mallory Bible at 918-732-7639 or 1-800-482-1979 ext. 7639.

Head Start Continues Old Tradition



Excited Head start children preparing for the race

Little Olympics is an old tradition that the Head Start program has coordinated for approximately twenty-five (25) years. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Program begins by competing with other Head Start Programs, which soon stopped. The Little Olympics is not a competition event, but rather a fun day for children to participate with children from

other head start programs. Head Start staff, teach the children that it is not a win or lose activity because all the children are winners and receive medals, which state just that. The events for the children are: Hurdle, dash, and relay. The Head Start Program certainly cannot forget the parent/staff relay to wrap up for the day. Staff and parents from each of the eight (8) sites form a team

and run the relay race. All participants have fun and receive a "winner" medal. The Head Start would like to give a thank you to the staff for their hard work in making this year's Little Olympics a success and the Head Start would like to give a special thank you to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representatives staff who provided the participants with Gatorade.

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Chief Declares May Older Native Americans Month



Eufaula Indian Community receives funding for skating rink



4 Love of the Fame All-Stars Way Out West



Chief Ellis host 3rd Annual Ceremonial Leaders Meeting

OKMULGEE - Principal Chief A.D. Ellis held his third annual Mekko’s meeting on April 8, 2006. Second Chief Alfred Berryhill gave invocation to the guests. Wilbur “Chebon” Gouge the former Speaker of the 9th, 11th & 12th National Council sessions welcomed the group and gave an overview of the meeting in our language. Chief Ellis welcomed the ceremonial leaders to the 3rd annual meeting. Ellis assured them that they would be informed of the services available to the grounds which include services that would address issues such as, sanitation, receptacle delivery and installation and trash pickup service. In June 2006, there are plans to demolish the old IHS building. The metal from the building will be available to grounds people to use at their camps and will be possibly ready to pick up in the late fall. There are also plans to purchase a wood chipping machine that will convert old wood, in to wood chips for various uses in the late fall. Land purchases and issues were also brought up. The tribe has purchased acreage in Okmulgee County, the site of Arbeka ceremonial ground and others are in negotiations. He gave an update of progress of these previous two meetings and his hopes of progress to come in the next two years. Chief Ellis hopes that those in the future will continue these meetings.

Speaker George Tiger and Second Speaker Roger Barnett welcomed the group. Speaker Tiger explained the programs funding and appropriation process. Speaker recognized former speaker Thomas Yahola (Tukvpevtce) acknowledged representatives James Jennings

(Okmulgee), and Eddie LaGrone (Muskogee). Speaker Tiger explained the protocol for legislation. “We can control some things when it comes to federal guidelines we have to work within them in and our structure there are some things we can examine and address these issues. We’d like to know what we can do to help the Mekkos and their grounds. These meetings today are very informal, there are no rules”. Tiger stated that he “Was very fortunate to be invited to the 3rd annual meeting. He felt good about this session and he thanked Chief Ellis for conducting this type of meeting. “We (the administration) are on the same page on events and would like to work together”. Second Speaker Barnett said he hopes to help take care of the needs of the grounds, advises them to start with their legislatures in their district. See what programs that were available and could address their individual problems. He urged the group to utilize their legislators and representatives.

Cason Le Blanc represented Indian Health Services’ and presented their new “Special Projects’ appropriation. Special

projects include those to conduct solid waste feasibility studies, to provide additional O&M operator training courses and to assist some Tribes alleviating public health problems at tribal community buildings. LeBlanc explained the criteria and funding break-

(Thomas Moore) found the map in his law office during a move, someone had given it to him in 1940. On this map it shows how many active ceremonial grounds existed. Many of those in attendance today are the direct descendents of those grounds.

resources. The office receives requests from various tribal departments, BIA, IHS, University professors and students and individuals as well as state and federal departments before a project is initiated to do a cultural impact to survey to see

if there are cultural resources in that area that could be affected by a project and would need to be avoided. Projects may include road construction bridge repair/expansion, possible cattle or hunting leases, building or house construction, cell tower construction or other development projects. Use of satellite GPS technology to map the location of historical and cultural resources such as archaeological sites, family cemeteries, graves of tribal members, historic trails, battlefield sites, churches, historic markers and historic buildings, such as Nuyaka, Mission and Eufaula Boarding School. The department had questions to consider in the mapping of our ceremonial grounds. They first wanted to meet with the Ceremonial Ground Mekkos to find out if the Mekkos would considered the mapping, what proximity they would prefer to be mapped and to whom would have access to

this information. She requested to schedule another meeting with the grounds to discuss the matter to get their perspective and preferences. If they chose to participate, Jacobs hopes to get some response for another meeting to address the mapping issues.

Yvette Wiley from Environmental Specialist discussed scheduling for trash pickups after Ceremonial Ground gatherings. Trash service is now available not just during green corn but year round. They have two sizes of receptacles available to provide each ground and will be delivered for their use. She urged the grounds to contact her and utilize this service that has not been offered before now.

There were eight Ceremonial Grounds represented by the Mekkos and or designees that were present. They were allowed time to speak about the concerns and make requests as needed. Those in attendance were Duck Creek Mekko Simon Harry and Second Chief Felix Brown. Hickory Ground’s Mekko George Thompson and Helisaya Tim Thompson. Green Leaf Mekko Bill Proctor and Second Chief Jimmy Deere. Hillabee Mekko Daniel Harjo and Joe Jackson. Arbeka Mekko Raymond Meeley. Weogufkee Eugene “Bon” Thomas, Jr. Kellyville (Polecat) Jim Brown. Okfuskee Second Chief Hill and Farron Culley. Tallahassee Cromwell Mekko Thomas Yahola and Second Chief Rufus Scott. The group was in agreement and appreciated these meetings. Most feel Chief Ellis has been successful in his intended goal and that was to bridge the gap between the grounds and the tribal administration.



L-R, representing Hickory Ground; Helisaya Tim Thompson, Mekko George Thompson, Duck Creek; Speaker Felix Brown and Mekko Simon Harry.

Photo By Ruth Bible

down and the funding process.

MCN Judicial Branch Judge Patrick Moore discussed Law in Indian Country. Moore announced changes to our current constitution. He explained some things about this topic. Moore said “that about 150 years ago, my great-grandfather was the Cussetah Mekko”. Moore stated that Cussetah’s fire is out, he begged on behalf of his great-grandfather not to let any more fires go out. He shared a copy of a map with the ceremonial grounds that was dated 1891. Moore’s late father

He asked the Mekkos “Please, do not let any more of these fires go out”. Included also in this packet is a copy of the Constitution of the Amendment. “The first meeting was held last Tuesday it was then that I was instructed to come before you today”. Moore explained that he would like to have our Mekko’s input on the big changes in our Constitution.

Cultural Preservation’s Cultural Technician Johnnie Jacobs discussed the mission of their department and was to identify and protect our cultural

Native American History Series: Long Knives

By Patrick E. Moore

The United States purchased what is now Oklahoma by negotiating with France and both world powers settled on a purchase price for the Louisiana Purchase \$23,213,567.73 including interest, the date for transfer of title to be November 3, 1803. President Thomas Jefferson with this single land purchase almost doubled the size of the then young United States.

Trappers and traders, in small numbers, had been frequenting portions of the Louisiana Purchase for almost two hundred years by November 3, 1803, however, with the United States now theoretically owning this vast territory the flood gates opened and the new breed of soldier, frontiersman and explorer entered upon these vast lands.

These adventurers called “Long Knives” by the Native Americans because of the swords, sabers and large knives they carried quickly made their presence known on all the rivers and streams of what is now Oklahoma. Oklahoma was most important as a gateway to the west, since it alone allowed waterway access to the great plains. Large populations of Native Americans were anxious for trade goods and were able to provide traders splendid furs and popular buffalo robes that were in high demand along the eastern United States coast and in Europe.

The territory now comprising Oklahoma was also strategically located allowing immigrant for access to Spanish land that is now Texas and New Mexico. The general thought by politicians in Washington during 1803 was that traders and trappers would enter the area first followed later by the farmer and the land that is now Oklahoma would become the first state formed out of the Louisiana Purchase. Subsequent Presidents and a general government attitude change in Washington, D.C., Tennessee, Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi toward Native Americans ironically resulted in Oklahoma being the

last area of the Louisiana Purchase to acquire statehood.

The United States Congress in 1804 placed the Louisiana Purchase under the jurisdiction of Indiana Territory. The governor of Indiana Territory was William H. Harrison, who would later become a hero of the War of 1812 and the ninth president of the United States.

President Thomas Jefferson, the man responsible for the Louisiana Purchase, ordered the Secretary of War in 1806 to explore, map rivers and highlands, record data on Native Americans living in the area, identify rocks, minerals, plants and animals through out the Louisiana Purchase. The United States Government began the mapping and exploration of the Red and Arkansas Rivers during 1806. These expeditions were the first United States entry into present day Oklahoma.

Spain was very concerned with this United States exploration because they did not agree with the southern and western boundaries of the Louisiana Purchase. Spanish officials at Nacogdoches in Texas and Santa Fe further west issued stern warnings that no exploration was to be undertaken until the boundaries had been settled. The Spanish were quoted “to send a party of soldiers to the sources of the rivers in the disputed territory would be an insult to Spain and would cause that power to retaliate by forcing the invaders to return.”

The United States in spite of the warning went ahead with the expedition under the command of a Captain Richard Sparks. Captain Sparks and twenty-four soldiers in two flat-bottomed boats left Natchitoches (now Louisiana) June 2, 1806. Upon reaching the Red River progress was stymied by miles of logs chocking the entire river channel.

Captain Sparks met with several Caddo warriors who were returning from a hunting expedition in Texas. These Caddos informed him that the Spanish had information about his small party and had dispatched a force of three hundred mounted sol-

diers to search for and stop his further exploration.

Captain Spark’s party had reached the southeastern corner of present Oklahoma, gone ashore and began to set up camp, when the Spanish cavalry from the fort at Nacogdoches under the command of Don Francisco Viana charged out of the underbrush on the Texas side of the river. The shallow water was crossed at a full gallop and within seconds Captain Sparks and his twenty-four soldiers were in Spanish custody. Commander Viana gave the United States soldiers two choices 1) return to Natchitoches or 2) be arrested and placed in jail at Nacogdoches. Out numbered by more than ten to one Captain Sparks ordered his men to load their boats and return down the river to Natchitoches.

Captain Spark’s expedition was the first official visit to present day Oklahoma by a United States official and also revealed to President Thomas Jefferson that the Spanish were intent on keeping the United States out of the south west.

From Saint Louis a similar expedition was also launched in 1806 to explore the Arkansas River and map lands to the Rocky Mountains. Twenty-three men under the command of Captain Zebulon M. Pike left Saint Louis sometime during the summer months and traveled up the Missouri and Osage rivers as far a boat could navigate, there they traded for horses from the Osage Nation for the trek across country to the Rocky Mountains. The journal of one Lieutenant James Wilkinson, Pike’s second-in-command, tells of a great Osage feast the expedition was treated to before leaving. They were served green corn, watermelons and buffalo.

Captain Pike’s small force traveled northwest to the Pawnee Nation on the Republican River in present northwest Kansas. Pawnee scouts informed Captain Pike that a large force of Spanish Cavalry from Santa Fe had been

See Series Continued On Page B7

Native Americans raise awareness of sacred sites

A United Methodist News Service (UMNS) Feature By Linda Green, UMNS writer

Around the United States this spring, Native Americans and others are holding marathons and other events to focus public attention on the ongoing threats to the sacred places of indigenous people.

Native Americans throughout the United States are running in a relays and marathons to ancient sites and mounds to connect with their pasts. The runs have been under way since February, and United Methodist churches have been providing hospitality to the runners. In the process, congregations are learning about the plight of sacred sites, which are threatened by housing, commercial and transportation development.

Sacred Sites Run 2006 also includes a traveling exhibit, “Ancient North American Civilization,” featuring historical sites that are recognized or have the potential to be recognized by governing agencies. Runners are gathering data at places where sites once existed and recording why they were destroyed.

Native American sacred places are where native people practiced their traditional religions and conducted rituals for peace for all of earth’s creation. Many of those sites have been desecrated and endangered by pollution, looting, vandalism and federal allocation of lands. Laws exist to protect Native American sacred sites, but in some areas, the laws are ignored.

The United Methodist Church’s lawmaking body adopted a resolution titled “The Protection of Native American Sacred Sites” in 2000 and again in 2004. In it, the church resolves that its Board of Church and Society should continue supporting legislation that would provide for a legal cause of action when sacred sites may be affected by governmental action. The resolution

calls on the board to communicate with the Senate Select Committee on Indian Affairs to strengthen the American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 and to preserve traditional Native American sacred sites.

“Cultural restoration and spiritual balance (are) needed in our communities to bring

From the indigenous perspective, the run reaffirms the commitment to sacred places, promotes cultural continuity and builds unity to promote mutual understanding between nations, and generates national pride

about healing (for) ourselves as Native American people through the remembrance of these ancient sites and the one-time grandeur of past civilizations,” said Melba Checote Eads, an organizer of a March 19 run beginning at Pinson Mounds in Jackson, Tenn.

The Pinson Mounds, among the oldest in North America, are threatened by development, Eads said. The 2006 Sacred Sites Run in the Southeast starts there as an attempt to educate non-Native Americans and the United Methodist Church about ancient civilizations and to emphasize that preserving ancient earthworks is a “justice issue,” she said. Eads is also coordinator of the Native American Gatherers’ Fellowship of Nashville, Tenn., and a member of Leesville United Methodist Church, Lebanon, Tenn.

Runners, traveling 50 miles

a day, will run from Wisconsin and throughout the Southeast. States included in the run are Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois and Minnesota. When the run ends Sept. 9 at Lake Park Mound in Milwaukee, the runners will have traveled more than 3,000 miles “to bring healing to our land,” said Ben Yahola, a Native American United Methodist in Milwaukee.

Other runs include one that started in California and is scheduled to end in Washington on Earth Day, April 22. That 71-day run is swinging through the Gulf Coast, where participants will help with rebuilding areas damaged by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Runners will be gathering soil near many Mississippian cultural sites, dating back 12,000 years, and other sacred places to establish a symbolic memorial in Milwaukee.

“This manner of bringing awareness to specific places is the first of a series of peaceful symbolic actions that is to remind the public that the descendants of mound builders continue to hold these ancient places sacred,” Yahola said. The collection of soil from around areas where sacred sites existed and exist today is not regarded as an act of destruction, since many sites today are on private property.

Gathering the soil together from around the United States is also a way to symbolize the migrations of native peoples who were removed from their lands and to raise awareness of the connections that sacred sites have to Native people, Yahola said.

“From the indigenous perspective, the run reaffirms the commitment to sacred places, promotes cultural continuity and builds unity to promote mutual understanding between nations, and generates national pride,” he said.

Those wanting to join Sacred Sites Run 2006 or wanting more information may visit www.sacredsitesrun.org.

Native entertainer promoting CD, play

By Gerald Wofford
MNN Staff Writer

LOS ANGELES – Ten years ago, Arigon Starr was working in Los Angeles. Starr was comfortable in a corporate position working for entertainment giants such as Showtime and Viacom. Starr was doing publicity work for celebrities such as Vanessa Williams, Luther Vandross, Jon Voight and others. But Arigon, (pronounced Air-ce-gun) knew there was much more in store for her. Starr knew how to play the guitar, as well as other musical instruments and wanted the chance to show what she could do. Even in 1996, Starr’s musical talent was already growing, “I was playing a lot of the coffee houses around LA,” remembers Starr, “those were some long nights. I would go to work and do my 9 to 6 job and then maybe take a couple of hours off and then pack up my guitar and then go and sit in a coffee house from 9 in the evening till 1 in the morning. Just picking and grinning and telling stories.” The experience of paying some dues would benefit Starr greatly, as she began to see a fan following. Playing in Los Angeles meant Starr would often perform for a more non-Indian crowd, but Starr didn’t forget who she was and made sure those watching and listening didn’t either. “That was one of the motivations for me to do the music,” remembers Starr. “Because I was looking out there (crowd) and I remember when I was growing up, and this might tell you how old I am,” laughs Starr. “I remember RedBone and they had that song ‘Come and get your love’ and I was just a little kid then, but I was like ‘those guys are Indians and there singing, Oh my gosh! Then there was Rita Coolidge and I thought if there are others too like Buffy Saint-Marie, I thought I wanted to do that!’”

Starr would incorporate her Indian family and friends in her songs and pay tribute to them, because she wanted the coffee-house crowd to know her world too. “A lot of times, performers would come out on the stage and say the name of the song, and start playing and singing and just look down at their shoes,” laughs Starr. “I knew I that I couldn’t get away with that because I wanted people to

know why I was singing a particular song. If I was singing about a pow-wow or something like that I would say “this song is about a pow-wow that I went to and hooked up with someone and we call it “snaggin”, and just make a joke of it. People would come up to me and say, “Wow I never knew about pow-wows or that you would see each other along the road.” But Starr counted that as valuable teaching time. “It was a great educational tool, although I wanted people to know who we (Indians) were, that we were still living, and that we actually lived in the modern contemporary world.”

Starr, who is of Creek-Cherokee-Seneca, and Kickapoo descent, was in cruise control now and the experience of live performances encouraged her to fulfill her dream. Starr would leave the familiar surroundings of a stable, professional job to pursue her music career full-force, but the need to support herself was still a reality, and Starr would rely on other talents to help make ends meet. “There was a lady I know named Dawn Jackson who worked over at Disney,” says Starr, “and she worked over at the Disney stores and she also knew that I was an artist and she said to me, “What would you think about drawing some Disney cartoons for our apparel. Because they did T-shirts with the Disney characters and she said if I could think of some creative ways to do that, then I could hire you as a freelance artist, so I finally had a way to not rely on a corporate paycheck. Plus after a while of serving people all the time, you would pick up a movie-star and make sure their limo is on time or get their first class ticket to London and back, you know that gets kind of old, plus after a while you want to be on the other side of that, someone to start getting a limo for you,” laughs Starr.

The artistic outlets of this talented Native American lady is truly extraordinary, and what made it even more remarkable was that Starr had no formal education training, in music or drawing.

“All this stuff, was just God-given talent from my Mom and her family, because my grandpa was a great artist, he could draw and so was my Dad’s brother,

“All this stuff was just God-given talent from my Mom and her family, because my grandpa was a great artist, he could draw and so was my Dad's brother Rudy, both of them were just amazing artists and my Mother is musical like nobody's business . . .”

Rudy, both of them were just amazing artists and my Mother is musical like nobody’s business and so I just got lucky on the gene pool, I guess.” Starr has also created Native American paintings as well.

With the free-lance job as a artist for the Disney stores, Starr was successful and even able to finance her first CD which was titled “Meet the Diva”. Starr, who is an avid Beatles fan, admits that it was the Fab Four’s influence that helped her name her first release. “The Beatles music and humor compelled me to pick up a guitar and begin to write songs. In fact, the title of the CD, meet the Diva, is a homage to the Fab Four’s US LP, ‘Meet the Beatles’.”

Her musical career was beginning to take off. ‘Meet the Diva’ was named Best Independent Recording at the Second Annual Native American Music Awards. In 2000, Starr would follow up with her second release entitled ‘Wind-Up’. This follow up work would even establish Starr even more, because the work contained a special song called “Junior Frybread” which captured the award of Song/Single of the Year at the Fourth Annual Native American Music Awards. By this time, Starr was signed on

with Wacky Productions.

Even in the hotbed of modern day Los Angeles, which might be known for more edgy, modern music, Starr’s style was known for a more traditional sound. “The music I was playing could be described more as ‘Country-Rock’, and kind of folk as well,” says Starr who was finding a nice mix of mainstream styles and native music and humor. In 2002, Starr kept on going and released her third CD ‘Backflip’, which again allowed her to show the unique blend she was creating and performing.

At this time, Starr was still catering to the Indian crowd as well. “A lot of people would hire me to do Indian benefits, and some pow-wows, but more like if someone had an honor dinner and they needed someone to play or sing.”

Starr’s talents doesn’t end with music or painting, she is also a very talented actress. A company called Native Voices at the Autry has featured her in several productions, including lead roles in the staged reading of Shirley Cheechoo’s *Moose River Crossing* and the West Coast premiere and Equity productions of Drew Hayden Taylor’s *The Buz’Gem Blues*. She played Mother Goodeye in the



Arigon Starr as Navajo frycook "Emmitt Tsinajinnie" in "The Red Road"-one of eleven characters she portrays in the one-person show.



Arrigon Starr, singer, actress, artist and playwright is all smiles about her newest play and CD “The Red Road”



Arrigon Starr

"I remember RedBone and they had that song 'Come and get your love' and I was just a little kid, but I was like "those guys are Indians and there singing, Oh my gosh!. Then there was Rita Coolidge and I thought if there are others too like Buffy Saint-Marie, I thought I wanted to do that!"

Arigon Bio: (from Arigon Starr’s biography on www.arigonstarr.com)

“It’s pronounced like “arrogant” without the “t,” grinned Kickapoo musician Arigon Starr. “People often mispronounce my name, but they never forget it!”

Proud, vivacious and full of energy, Arigon Starr continues to defy the odds of becoming a successful artist in the music business. Her debut CD, MEET THE DIVA, earned an enthusiastic response from Native, college and community radio stations ñ plus a prestigious Native American Music Award for “Best Independent Recording.”

Arigon’s blend of pop, rock, country, punk and funk reflects her upbringing as a military “brat.” “We pulled up stakes about every two years while I was going to school,” she said. “There’s an old country song that tells the story of a person who’s been ‘everywhere, man’ and that describes my life. I was born in Florida and have spent time in Tennessee, Maryland, New Jersey, Oklahoma, New Mexico, California – you name it.” The eclectic mix of scenery, music and people helped form her unique approach to contemporary Native American music. “The music must serve the song ñ and help tell the story. Taking elements of different styles of music and mixing them up seems to me to be the most natural thing in the world.”

Musical storytelling is one of Arigon’s fortes. In 2001, The Native American Music Awards chose “Junior Frybread,” from her second release WIND-UP, as the Song of the Year. “Accepting that award was a personal triumph for me,” she smiled. “When I made the decision to leave my corporate job and become a full-time musician, I knew that I would make it on the strength of my songwriting. There are so many stories left untold in Native America. I feel honored to be a voice for the people.”

Arigon tells her “stories” as a performing musician on stages across the world, among them New York City, San Francisco, Seattle, New Orleans, Las Vegas, London and Los Angeles. She certainly hasn’t ignored her Native audiences with appearances on the Hopi and Navajo

reservations in Arizona, at the Cherokee Homecoming in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Warm Springs Reservation in Oregon and at the Milwaukee Indian Summer Festival.

It was on the road that she befriended country group BR549, who perform on several tracks of BACKFLIP. “Those boys are my very unlikely musical soulmates. I grew up listening to the kind of music they play, which is country music from the 50’s and 60’s. It was the first time ever that my dad and I liked the SAME band,” she laughed. “It turned out that one of the band members, Chuck Mead, had gone to school with my cousin in Lawrence, Kansas. We instantly bonded over that ñ and trying to determine who was the most hardcore Beatles fan.

Chuck has got me beat on that.” Don Herron (fiddle, pedal steel, mandolin and banjo) adds a “down-home” feeling to several of the tracks, while vocalist Gary Bennett wraps his warm, soulful tenor voice around Arigon’s music – especially the stunning “Mountain Windsong.” “Gary is probably one of the most amazing harmony singers I’ve ever heard. What he does is instinctive and from the heart. You won’t find too many singers like him,” said Arigon.

Returning from Arigon’s previous CD projects are drummer Nicholas Peters (a member of California’s LuiseOo tribe), lead guitarist Jeff Ruiz and engineer/keyboardist Ben Moore. Making his first appearance on an Arigon release is bassist Tyler Grant.

CITY PRESENTS AMERICAN INDIAN BLVD TO AMERICAN INDIAN CULTURAL CENTER

OKLAHOMA CITY, OK (May 12, 2006) – The world will soon log on to the many online map finders in search of the American Indian Cultural Center and find it located on American Indian Boulevard. May 11, 2006 at 4:00 p.m. Mayor of Oklahoma City, Mick Cornett will symbolically present American Indian Boulevard to Governor Anaoatubby, Governor of the Chickasaw Nation and Chairman of the Native American Cultural and Educational Authority (NACEA). Immediately south of I-40 and at the east entrance of the future site of the Cultural Center Complex the street has been renamed American Indian Boulevard. This dedication will take place on the Cultural Center site and represents the Cities commitment and partnership with the NACEA to build and create a monumental place that will give all Oklahomans not only a world class destination and tourism attraction, but also a sense of pride as 300 acres of neglected land is transformed into the Central Park of

Oklahoma.

The dream began almost thirty years ago when Senators Kelly Haney and the late Robert M. Kerr, introduced legislation to establish the NACEA to design, construct and operate an American Indian Cultural Center and Museum. The NACEA has been positively advancing the creation of this new institution by assembling a world class design and planning team that demonstrated its commitment by investing significant time and resources with

Oklahoma City has decided to rename this portion of the street American Indian Boulevard. This is one of many signs that the American Indian Cultural Center is moving forward.i

The first phase of construction has begun with well excavation underway. In the past, the site has witnessed everything from Indian encampments to the development of an industrial oil field, realignment of the Oklahoma River, coming of the railroad, placement of utilities, the emergence of downtown Oklahoma City and redevelopment of

As the excavation work prepares the site for future construction Centennial Builders are finding various items that have been dumped on the grounds throughout the years, including tires. Centennial Builders Project Executive, John Jamison comments, “There is a mound of over one thousand tires. This helps illustrate how much site clean up must occur while we prepare to build on this location.

See Cultural Continued On Page B8

Reach The Rez Tour Reaches Creek Country



Second Chief Alfred Berryhill greets Litefoot on the grounds of the Creek Nation Complex. Photo By Ruth Bible

By Jason Salsman
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE – In a joint effort with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, the “Reach The Rez” tour is making it’s way through the Creek Nation. The tour, which reaches out to Native youth and promises an inspirational journey for change and upliftment, reaches out to 211 reservations over 40 states while spanning 200,000 miles. The tour features Litefoot, an Cherokee Indian who has gained fame as an actor, rap artist and motivational speaker. The tour visited the Eufaula Dormitory

and Okemah Schools on May 12, and Litefoot stopped by the Creek Capitol complex for a visit. Tentative dates are set for May 15 at Mason School at 1:00 p.m. and at Sapulpa Jr./Sr. High School in the Chieftan Center at 1:45 p.m. on May 17. Additional dates throughout Creek Nation are being scheduled and will be available whenever they are finalized. Those who wish to keep track of tour dates can do so by logging on to the tour web site at www.reachtherez.org. Inquiries about dates in Creek territory can also be directed to the National Council office at (918) 732-7966.

Native Praise sings to the world by Jennifer Taryole



Native Praise choir

Native Praise is a choir made up of over 100 women comprised with more than 40 churches. The choir sings traditional gospel songs of the Creek, Seminole, Cherokee and Choctaw tribes while dressed in their traditional clothing.

The women's choir began in 1999 and is a result of Native American LINK, a non-profit Christian organization located in Eufaula, Oklahoma.

Martha Johnson, Vice-President of LINK Executive Board, as well as member of Native Praise states, "I enjoy doing what I'm doing. This is currently our seventh year singing. We bring gospel through our songs everywhere we go."

According to their website, The choir has sung throughout Oklahoma from the Panhandle in northwest Oklahoma to Durant in the southeast corner, and from Weatherford in southwestern Oklahoma to Tahlequah

in the northeast, and many places in between. The choir also toured the mid-

Atlantic states of North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, and Delaware in the spring of 2003, which included singing in the U.S. Capitol Building. In June 2003, Native Praise sung for a Native American rally held at the Ford Center in Oklahoma City, a rally sponsored by the Billy Graham Association. The choir has also traveled to Birmingham, England to sing for the Women's Leadership Conference of the Baptist World Alliance. They have sung in churches, state and national annual meetings (BGCO, Arkansas WMU, OK-WMU, SBC-WMU, Promise Seekers Ladies Retreat, Indian Falls Creek), for tribal events and cel-

ebrations, for wedding and funeral services, and for various conference gatherings bearing Native American emphasis.

The choir recently recorded a CD, which was released in July 2005. The CD is available in the Creek Nation Gift Shop located in Okmulgee Tribal Complex.

The choir continues to participate in worship experiences throughout churches in Oklahoma and surrounding states.

Pastor's Corner

by Pastor Wesley Berry
Crosstown Church

I want to begin this month's column, by acknowledging all our readers and saying thank you for all your support. Let's begin this month where we left off last, Why would the world want to invade and take control of LITTLE OL' ISRAEL.

If you've been following along with this particular article, you'll realize this is part of three of the OIL CRISIS series. As much as I understand the religious context of the sibling rivalry between Ishmael (the patriarch of the Muslim religion) and Isaac (the patriarch of the Jewish religion), I also understand that the rest of the world has really no interest in the feud between these two religious groups. But on the contraire, I believe the actual agendas of the nations of the world getting involved have little to do with religious differences and much to do with oil.

Regardless of what you may believe or not believe, the fact of the matter is something is brewing, something is forming on the horizon. On the front page of the Daily Oklahoman, Wednesday, May 3rd, 2006, In big bold letters it reads, READY FOR \$4-A-GALLON FUEL? Boone Pickens, Oklahoma native and oil executive, who has made millions predicting energy prices, said, "We're going to see \$4 a gallon gasoline this summer." Mr. Pickens also commented on the fact of not being surprised in the very near future to see a barrel of crude oil being sold for somewhere between eighty and one hundred dollars a barrel. The New York Mercantile Exchange closed Tuesday, May 2nd with crude oil selling for \$74.63 a barrel. And yet in Saudi Arabia, April 30th, 2006, King Abdullah issued a royal decree reducing domestic gasoline prices almost 30%. Therefore what equates to a gallon of gasoline in the United States, costs the Saudis, about 68 cents a gallon.

My question to you is, How long do you think the powers that be, will sit around and toler-

ate the high cost of crude oil without taking matters into their own hands. There's no doubt that something of prophetic significance has begun. Once again I want to remind you of the scripture found in Proverbs 13:22, amplified version, A good man leaves an inheritance (of moral stability and goodness) to his children's children, and the wealth of the sinner (finds its way eventually) into the hands of the righteous, for whom it was laid up. There are two very important locations in Israel to make mention of, the first one is the Dead Sea, which is the lowest spot on the earth, 1296 feet below sea level. As I mentioned in an earlier article, if oil is found in the Dead Sea it would drain all other oil fields in the region, simply because of its geological design. Therefore, causing the nations of the world to invade Israel for its oil. The second location in Israel to be mentioned is the area that since ancient times, has been known as Asher's foot. According to Deut. 33:24, Blessed above sons is Asher; Let him be acceptable to his brothers, and LET HIM DIP HIS FOOT IN OIL. If you were to look at a map of the region of Israel that pertained to the inheritance of the twelve tribes of Israel, you would notice the area that Asher inherited, it looks as if a toe protrudes from it. At that very point of reference is what they called Asher's foot. Now here's what I want you to know, at this very moment they're drilling in this area, and Israeli's geologist believe they're right on top of a great oil field discovery. Here's where the natural realm collides with the prophetic realm, the area that Asher's foot is located is in the same vicinity as the Valley of Megiddo, where the battle of Armageddon is fought.

I understand spiritually and scripturally the reason for the battle of Armageddon. But I also believe that not all the players of this great battle of nations, have to do with religious differences. I believe that some of their agendas will be for the sake of nation-

al posterity. Let me shed a little light, on the reasoning behind my thinking, because scripture states that in the end time there will be two major invasions of Israel. The first coming from what theologians believe is Russia and the second one will be China. Now here's the facts, both countries are officially atheist, therefore religion may or may not be a determining factor of the actual reasoning for invading Israel. Here's a footnote, if religion is the main purpose of invading, Why wouldn't the battle of Armageddon take place in Jerusalem, Instead of the Valley of Megiddo? Studying all of the information gathered from geological studies and from the exploratory drilling, the petroleum experts predict that the oil found in the Megiddo Valley has the potential to supply Israel with enough oil to last for seven years. Could this be the same 7-year period spoken of in the Word of God, when every nation in the world invades Israel and gathers in the Valley of Megiddo to destroy Israel? Is there any significance to the fact that prophetically, the two nations described in scripture as two major players of end time events, just happen to be on the list of most oil consuming nations in the world, China #2 and Russia #4?

That's the amazing thing about studying Eschatology, man in his limited wisdom and knowledge cannot declare the end of a thing, only God reserves that right, Matthew 24:36, "but of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father." The fact of the matter, I don't know how all of this is going to play out, but I do know that Jesus's return is pre-eminent and my only concern is for me and mine to be ready and also for you and yours. I hope in writing this article it has caused you to take in to consideration the time frame we're living in and to make every moment count. We don't know, but the count down to Armageddon may have just begun.

Faith, action converge at United Methodist Women's Assembly

By Linda Bloom, United Methodist News Service (UMNS) Writer

ANAHEIM, Calif. (UMNS) - In a "scary time" when war, terrorism, environmental calamity and unchecked poverty and disease are looming fears, United Methodist Women can still make practical expressions of their faith. That was the closing message from Jan Love to participants at the 2006

United Methodist Women's Assembly. Love is chief executive of the Women's Division, United Methodist Board of Global Ministries.

As a start, women can deepen their understanding of their own salvation and express the joy of their faith. Then they can "make every day a mission day," according to Love. "Continue with more determination to practice love, mercy, kindness and justice in your home, neighborhood, our nation and across the world."

New members can be recruited and shown how United Methodist Women "embraces all God's people" and advocates for women both inside and outside the church.

"Tell them that you belong to an organization that refuses to offer religious excuses or legitimization for violence, vengeance, deprivation and discrimination," Love said.

For more than 137 years, United Methodist Women has offered the love of Christ and "literally saved and served the lives of millions of women, children and youth" through its mission programs, Love pointed out. Under the theme, "Rise, Shine, Glorify God!" about 7,000 members gathered May 4-7 at the Anaheim Convention Center for worship and workshops, exhibits and education, community building and contemplation.

Love said she considered the assembly to be "a great big family reunion," strengthening community and "deepening people's understanding of their own faith journey."

The event opened with a grand procession of banners representing the 63 annual (regional) U.S. conferences of the United Methodist Church. Three large puppets in rose pink, green and blue - symbolizing the assembly logo - followed, swirling and billowing up the aisles to the central stage.

Kyung Za Yim, Women's Division president, welcomed the participants and guided them in a call to worship accompanied by Latino, Tongan, African and Native American drumming. Chikara Daiko, a group from

Centenary United Methodist Church in the "Little Tokyo" neighborhood of Los Angeles, received an enthusiastic reaction for their Taiko - or classical Japanese - drumming.

Speaking with courage

Social justice issues were a key focus of speakers May 5. Wahu Kaara, founder of the Kenya Debt Relief Network and a candidate in the 2007 presidential elections, knows living examples of the feminization of poverty and told the women they must speak "with unflinching courage" on the injustices that divide the world into "haves and have-nots."

Silvia Regina Lima e Silva, a Latin American theologian, called attention to the U.S. immigration debate by condemning the proposed fence between the United States and Mexico and calling increased border patrols "a manifestation of a growing racism and xenophobia which are becoming part of everyday life."

Anna Deavere Smith, known for her performance art about controversial issues - such as "Twilight: Los Angeles," which focused on the 1992 civil unrest following the Rodney King verdict - gave an evening presentation about her journalistic style of interviewing subjects and then interpreting their words.

She spoke warmly of her upbringing in the Union Memorial United Methodist Church in Baltimore - although she confessed she is now an Episcopalian - and talked about how she likes the repetition of words through the Bible and prayer.

Her grandfather told her that "if you say a word often enough, it becomes you." By repeating the words of the people she has interviewed and recorded on tape, Smith became a Jewish woman dealing with a Sabbath dilemma in Crown Heights, Brooklyn; a male doctor talking to a meeting of traditional healers in Uganda; a female prison inmate remembering how domestic violence led to the death of her daughter; and a Korean store owner bitter over the burning of her shop during the Los Angeles riots.

Shining the light

On May 6, the Rev. Don Saliers, a composer of sacred music and professor at Candler School of Theology, and his daughter, Emily, one half of the Indigo Girls, demonstrated through song how music "takes us to places we wouldn't have expected to go."

Three women - Casimira

Rodriguez Romero, the new minister of justice for Bolivia; Kim Hollowell, a young adult and advocate against child labor; and Christy Tate Smith, a disaster consultant for the United Methodist Committee on Relief - provided personal examples of how Methodist women shine their light on the world.

Their stories were incorporated in a Bible study led by M. Garlinda Burton, chief executive of the United Methodist Commission on the Status and Role of Women, who urged assembly participants to find their own way to shine.

"We've got the love of Christ, the chutzpah of the Holy Spirit and more than 200 years of shining backing us up as Methodists," she declared.

The drummers of the opening worship represented the vast diversity of cultural arts found throughout the assembly. Sanctified Souljahz!, a group of youth connected with New Entra Casa, a San Diego program for ex-offenders and their children, offered a version of liturgical dance that members call "body worship."

Orquesta Candela, a Hispanic Christian salsa band from Los Angeles, roused the audience, and a Tongan women's choir and youth dance group from St. Mark United Methodist Church in Anaheim drew wild applause.

Saturday evening's entertainment featured the Clark University Steppers from Atlanta, performing a style of dance with roots from Africa, and the Ewha Alumnae Choir of Seoul, Korea, composed of the Methodist-supported Ewha University and Girls' High School.

Church Activities

Snake Creek Church

BIXBY - Snake Creek Indian Church #1 will be holding a revival May 18 through 21 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly.

The evangelists for Thursday and Friday will be George Harjochee and on Saturday and Sunday (morning) will be Allison Phillips. The theme for the revival is "Revive us again."

Big Arbor Baptist Church

STIDHAM - Big Arbor Baptist Church will be having their vacation bible school on May 21 through 24 with classes from babies to adults. Sunday services will begin at 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. Monday through Wednesday services will start at 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. The theme will be "The Artistic Edge."

The church is located two and a half miles east of Stidham School.

Springfield Methodist Church

OKEMAH - Springfield Methodist Church will be having their 23rd Annual Gospel Singing on May 28 beginning at 7 p.m.

The emcee will be Springfield Methodist members. Concession will be available.

The church is located from Okemah on Highway 27, three miles south, four miles east, and two miles south. Signs will be posted.

Ward Coachman Memorial Singing

BRAGGS - Ward Coachman Memorial Singing will be held at Sand Springs Baptist Church on May 28 at 7 p.m.

The emcee will be Curtis Kinney. Concession will be available. Everyone welcome. Bring your own lawn chairs.

The church is located, one mile south of Braggs on Highway 10, then 1 1/4 mile west.

For more information, call

Curtis Kinney at (918) 682-4703.

Wekiwa Baptist Church Revival

SAND SPRINGS - Wekiwa Indian Baptist Church will be having a revival on June 19 through 23 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly.

The speakers will include: Monday, Kenneth Cooper; Tuesday, Wallace Gambler; Wednesday, Greg Wilson; Thursday, Stan Henson and Friday, Mitchell Taylor.

Youth Revival

OKEMAH - Buckeye Creek Baptist Church will be having a youth revival on July 20 through 22. All youth are welcome to come.

For more information, call (918) 623-4222.

Indian Falls Creek

DAVIS - Indian Falls Creek 2006 will be held July 31 through August 4. This year's theme will be "All things are possible."

The camp preacher for morning service will be Waylon Bailey, Pastor of 1st Baptist Church of Covington, Louisiana and evening service preacher will be Dr. Robert Smith Jr., Professor of Preaching of Beeson Divinity School, Samford University of Birmingham, Alabama.

The worship team director will be Jesse Hernandez, 1st Baptist Church of Shawnee, Oklahoma. The Children's Church Director will be "Tricky Ricky" Henson, Evangelist of Jonesboro, Georgia.

For more information, contact Victor Cope, IFC Executive Director at (405) 598-8720.

Muscogee Nation News
P.O. Box 580
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Check Out The Festival
Information Located In
Section C Of This Issue!

Principal Chief to declare May Older Native Americans Month

OKMULGEE - In honor of our elders who have made great contributions in our personal lives, throughout our communities, and within our Nation, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis will proclaim May as "Older Native Americans Month. This is the first such tribal proclamation for our elders as they enter into the new millennium. It is also a first for other elders who are recognized as part of the Baby Boom generation.

The Elderly Nutrition Program (ENP), who will sponsor events at five of the Elderly

Nutrition sites throughout the month of May, proposed the idea of honoring our Native eld-

ers in tandem with the general population who also honors older Americans during the month of May. According to Lou Jean Fixico, Program Coordinator, "This is a good opportunity for us to honor our elderly. We can recognize them for what they have done in their lifetime, and for what they have given us."

The theme for this initiative is "Renew Your Body, Mind and Spirit". During the month, special activities, including health screenings, health and wellness information booths, arts and craft displays, etc. will be featured at five of the ENP community centers. The Tobacco Prevention Program and the community Health Representative (CHR) Program are a few of the many organizations which will lend their support at each scheduled event. In addition, a Certificate of Recognition will be presented to the Eldest man and the Eldest Woman in each community.

On May 3, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis proclaimed May as Older Native Americans Month. The kick-off event was held at 10:00 a.m. and was held at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center on May 12, the Holdenville Indian Community will be hosting the event. The Sapulpa Indian Community will be sponsoring their celebration on May 17. In addition, the Muskogee and Koweta Indian Communities will be holding festivities on May 23 and may 31, respectively.

The Office of the Principal Chief, along with the Muskogee (Creek) Nation Health System,

ATTENTION MVSKEKE VETERANS:

I will be taking about twenty veterans to Branson, Missouri to take part in the Annual "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans" celebration in June, 2006. The first meeting last year drew some 28,000 Veterans. This event, as I understand it, will be a yearly thing.

The itinerary is as follows:

- **Wednesday, June 15th**
Leave Creek Nation at 10:00 a.m.
Arrive Branson around 4:00 p.m.
Spend the Night
- **Thursday, June 15th**
Take part in festivities all day
Evening – perhaps attend Pow Wow
- **Friday, June 16th**
Morning 10:00 a.m. –
March in Parade
Approx. 1:00 p.m. –
Depart Branson
Approx. 6:00 p.m. –
Arrive Creek Nation

Lodging and meals will be taken care of by the Senior's program.

Call or come by to sign up.

MVTO!

Jackson Barnett
Senior Service Manager
U.S. Navy Veteran
(918) 732-7723


MAY IS OLDER NATIVE AMERICANS MONTH

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF ELDERLY CENTERS CHIEF A.D. ELLIS WILL BE VISITING THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF MAY TO HONOR CITIZENS FOR "OLDER NATIVE AMERICANS MONTH"

SAPULPA CENTER	MAY 17TH
MUSKOGEE CENTER	MAY 23RD
KOWETA CENTER	MAY 31ST


Creek Elderly Citizens Take Trip to Albuquerque, New Mexico for "Gathering of the Nations" and take a tram to see the Sandia Mountains





wild things

Primitive is the ultimate seduction. Get the look with tropical brights mixed with woodsy tones. Reveal your wild side – book an appointment today!

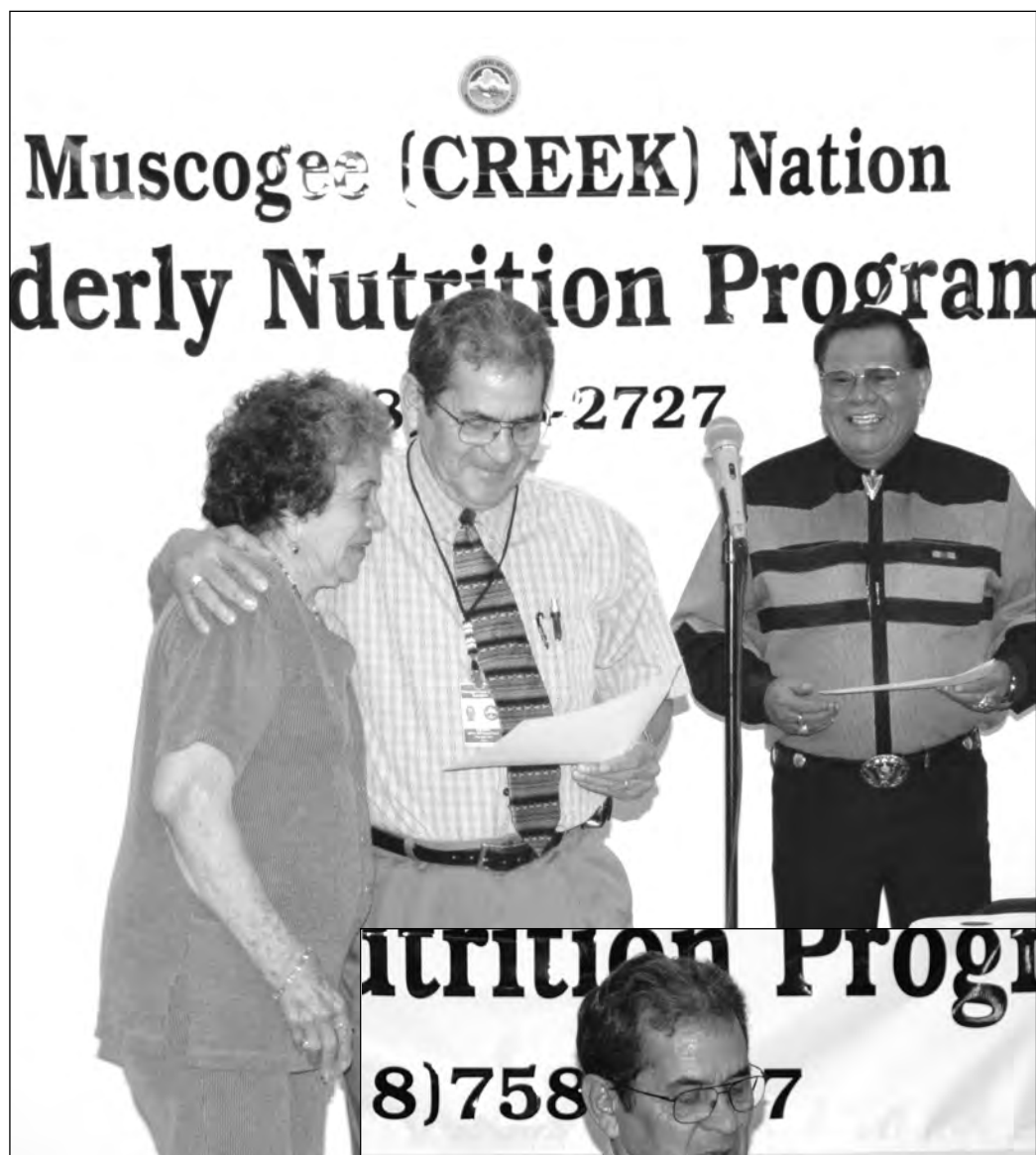


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Selina Jayne-Dornan/Owner
Muscogee (Creek) Citizen

Merle Norman Cosmetic Studios have been independently owned and operated since 1931.

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Principal Chief presents Lillian Crowe with certificate.

is proud to support the Elderly Nutrition Program in honoring the elders of our Nation's communities. The Senior Services Program of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation is also lending its support in recognizing the contribution of the elders in our lives.

Throughout May, announcements will run on local radio stations and newspaper.

The Muskogee (Creek) Nation Health System and the Office of the Principal Chief encourage everyone to support our most treasured of genera-

tions, our elders, during Older Native Americans Month.

For more information or a list of communities that will host Older Native Americans Month,


the ENP center locations, dates and times, please contact ENP

Coordinator, Lou Jean Fixico at (918) 758-2727 or at (918) 637-6491.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

Festival Info Section C

HONORING OUR ORIGINAL ALLOTTEES



JUNE 16TH CREEK FESTIVAL
1:30 P.M.
LOCATION:
OKMULGEE ELDERLY NUTRITION CENTER

Everyone Welcome!

designed & printed by Muskogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department 2004

JAKE WILFRED CLINTON

PRAGUE - Funeral services for Jake Wilfred Clinton were held April 8 at Parks Brother Funeral Chapel with Rev. Mike McCauley officiating.

He was born February 8, 1925 in Bristow to Jake Nexie and Lela Watson Clinton.

Jake was in the U.S. Army during WWII, serving with the 2nd Ranger Battalion on Normandy Beach on D-day. He was awarded three Purple Hearts. Clinton worked as an aircraft mechanic.

He married, Wynema Hill, in Las Vegas in 1953.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; sister, Murdell C. Gump and one half-brother, George W. Clinton.

Survivors include: his wife, of the home; son, Rick Worsham of Meeker; sister, Doretha C. Buckminster of Henryetta; nephew; seven grandchildren; step-mother, Ruby Naylor and Maxie Gump of Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Interment was at Gable Cemetery in Prague.

WILLIAM FLEETWOOD

OKMULGEE - Funeral services for William Issac Fleetwood were held March 8 at the New Beginnings Church of God with Reverend Raymond Doke officiating.

He was born April 12, 1928 to Andrew J. and Lilly Bruner Fleetwood.

Tony was a farmer before he worked as a horse trainer for Baker Dairy for a few years. He loved to play golf, gardening, yard care and playing with his grandchildren.

On August 27, 1949, he married Wanda Henderson in Okmulgee, Oklahoma.

In 1986, Tony built Zoe Life Church next to their home, which he pastored for eight years.

Preceding him in death was: his parents; brothers, Fred. L.

BETTY FOX

SAPULPA - Funeral services for Betty Jane Fox were held April 22 at Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church with Reverends Phillip Fox and Micah Fox officiating.

She was born October 25, 1926 to Henry and Melissa Tiger Fox. Fox was a nurse aide until retirement, living and working in Tulsa, Sapulpa and Okmulgee.

Betty was a member of Pickett Chapel United Methodist Church.

Preceding her in death was: her parents; a half brother, Matthew Bigpond Fox and an infant sister.

Survivors include: her brother, Herbert Fox and numerous nieces and nephews.

Interment was at Green Hill Cemetery.

JAMES MCCOSAR

HOLDENVILLE - Funeral services for James Monroe McCosar were held April 20 at Many Spring Indians Baptist Church.

He was born near Holdenville on March 15, 1933 to Ben and Minnie McCosar and was raised in the Little River Community.

James served his country during the Korean War with the Army 45th Infantry Charlie company. He received the National Defense Medal, Korean Service Medal and was awarded a Purple Heart. In combat where James earned his Purple Heart, after being severely wounded and in mortal danger, he carried a wounded fellow to safety.

James joined with his cousins, Corney, Wahoo, Blackie and Frankie Buck to form to Buck Boys and later the Gospel Aires.

PAUL MCINTOSH

TIGER MOUNTAIN - Funeral services for Paul “Pete” McIntosh were held March 25 at Silver Springs Baptist Church with Reverend Ledtkey McIntosh officiating.

He was born November 28, 1937 in Claremore, Oklahoma.

Paul graduated from Dewar High School. He attended auto body and fender school in Kansas City, Missouri in 1960.

McIntosh worked at a machinist at Oklahoma Steel Castings in Tulsa for 19 years.

Preceding him in death was: his parents, Reverend John D. McIntosh and Velva Richard

They traveled all over the state to revivals and all night singings.

McCosar married Pat Dana in August 1963.

He did landscaping and yard-work for many years in Holdenville. James loved to fish, play and coach softball and spend time with his grandchildren. Pat and him loved to travel to singings, pow-wows and family gatherings.

Preceding him in death was: his wife; brothers, Benjamin Wallace Jr., Wilbur Brimer, Julius Ryan and John Robert McCosar; and sister, Anna Mae McCosar.

Survivors include: his son, John; five grandchildren; sister, Martha Ann Leach of Midwest City; uncle, Lewis McCosar of Holdenville; and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews.

MATTHEW MEASHINTUBBY

HOLDENVILLE - Funeral services for Matthew James Meashintubby were held April 27 at Hudson-Phillips Funeral Home Chapel.

He was born March 11, 1962 at Talihina, to Joseph and Nellie Meashintubby.

Matthew was raised in Calvin and graduated from Calvin Schools in 1980. He did lots of odd jobs and the last several years he has been employed at Southern Oklahoma Livestock Auction.

Meashintubby enjoyed watching his nephews play ball, fishing, playing sports and being with his family.

Survivors include: three sis-

ters, Glenda Carpitcher of Konawa, Lynda Simmer and Vicky Pettigrew, both of Ada; three brothers, Robert of Parsons, Kansas, Douglas and Kenneth Meashintubby, both of Ada; one nephew; nine nieces, nephews and numerous other relatives and friends.

Pallbearers were: John Herrod; Rob Walton; Mitchell Simmer; Steven Tebe; Kenneth Jr. and Harold Meashintubby.

Honorary pallbearers included: Richard Herrod; Doug Owens; Johnny Myers; Kenneth Coody; Wendell Pettigrew; Danie Simmer; Pete and Dennis Bear.

Interment was at Cedar River Cemetery in Holdenville.

SOPHIA TARYOLE

HENRYETTA - Funeral services for Sophia Taryole were held April 17 at Shurden Funeral Home Chapel with Wayne Taryole and Thompson Gouge officiating.

She was born September 23, 1917 in Okfuskee County to Taylor Coon and Missalley Johnson Coon.

Preceding her in death were her husband, Van and two half-brothers, Italy and Charley Coon.

Survivors include: daughter, Sally Tiger of Sapulpa; two sons, Sonny of Henryetta and



Taryole

Kenneth Taryole of Okmulgee; special daughter, Lorena Johnson Roberts; brother, Phillip Coon of Sapulpa; sister, Edna Harrison of Muskogee; seven grandchildren; twelve great-grandchildren and four special grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Robert Coffey; Matthew and Jerome Roberts; Robert Fixico; James and Junior Tiger.

Honorary Pallbearers were: Mike Coon; Shayne Hooper and Clarence Tiger.

Interment was at the Taryole Family Cemetery.

Muscogee Nation News

P.O. Box 580

muscogeeneration-nsn.gov

Check Out The Festival

Information Located In

Section C Of This Issue!

Schumacher Funeral Home

Ron Schumacher is Announcing

Two new additions to our staff with over 80 years of combined experience to better serve you

Bob McLemore and Patty Fletcher

Honoring Muscogee Creek Traditions

130 W. 8th St. Bristow, OK 74010 918.367.2244

1321 W. Columbia Okemah, OK 74859 918.623.1133

Two Locations to serve your needs: B.I.A. & Tribal Burial Funds may include a complete Funeral Service

Assistance & services available for burial process

Tribal Programs

The Tribal Burial program is designed to help families of a deceased Creek citizen who do not have adequate resources to cover funeral costs.

The following documentation is required to apply:

(1) Complete application (The responsible party on the burial contract must fill out the application unless an authorized person has permission);

(2) Burial contract from the funeral home;

(3) Creek citizenship card of deceased; and

(4) Social security card.

Tribal burial application must be made within six months of death.

Food for Funeral Program assists families of a deceased Creek citizen with a food voucher for food costs associated with a funeral, memorial, or wake service, or a family dinner.

Federal Programs

BIA Burial Assistance is an indigent burial assistance program for Native Americans who are enrolled with a federally recognized tribe and reside within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation service area. In the absence of other resources, the bureau can provide burial assistance for eligible indigent Native Americans meeting the requirements.

The following documentation is required to apply:

(1) Complete application;

(2) Burial contract from the funeral home;

(3) Death certificate;

(4) Enrollment card;

(5) Social security card; and

(6) Proof of residence

BIA application must be made within 30 days of death. After application is complete, there is a 30-day waiting period.

For more information on these programs, call Social

Services at (918) 759-2334 or (800) 482-1979.

Burial Service (Gravesite preparation)

Burial service in the form of gravesite preparation is available to Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizens. There is no cost to tribal citizens.

In order to have your request received, you must have the following:

(1) Be enrolled with Muscogee (Creek) Nation;

(2) Location, Time & Date of gravesite service; and

(3) Gravesite be within Creek Nation jurisdiction.

To request this service, call Bob Arrington or Thomasine Long at (918) 732-7650 or 7651.

JOM announces Challenge Bowl dates

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl 2006 will be held on November 1st for the elementary school division, the 15th for the middle school division, and the 16th for the high school, at the main tribal complex. Creek churches or

communities can now receive rules and study guides. For further information or receiving materials come to the Johnson O’Malley office in the Human Development Building, look on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s Web site, or by calling 732-7841.

Lord’s Prayer

Pvr-ke Hvl-we lv-kets-kvt,
Ce-ho-cef-kvt vcv-ke-kvs
Cem-ob-me-ke-tvt, vlv ke-kvs,
Ma-mv Hvl-we nv-ke ko-mets-ke
Mo-mvt etv-po-met yv-mv ekv-nvn
Oh-mo-me-kvs; Net-tv-v-rvh-kv
Tvk-la-ken mo-cv net-tvn po-mvs:
Wa-kvs, vhue-ra-ce-yvt
Es-em-wa-kv-ke-yvt etv-po-men;
Nv-ke po-nv-or-ke-pue-ce tv-ye
Es-ker-re-tv se-po-hvh-yets-kvs,
Mo-maes, hol-wv-kvn
Vse-pos-sa-cvs: Oh-mek-ke-tvt, Yek-
ce-tvt: Mo-men rvk-ke tvt
Ce-nv-ke e-mon-kvt-o-me-kv.

AMEN

Detailed Information In Section C

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

THIRTY-SECOND

FESTIVAL

ANNUAL

JUNE 15-18, 2006

OKMULGEE, OKLAHOMA

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE

RODEO

PARADE

SENIOR CITIZEN ACTIVITIES

SPORTS

5K RUN

PRINCESS PAGEANT

ARTS & CRAFTS

FOOD

TRADITIONAL STOMP DANCE

CREEK HYMNS

CHILDREN ACTIVITIES

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Legal Notices (Continued From Page A2)

BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA
APPLICANT: MARBET, LLC
RELIEF SOUGHT: DRILLING AND SPACING UNITS
LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SE/4 OF SECTION 3, SW/4 OF SECTION 2 AND THE NE/4 OF SECTION 10, ALL IN TOWNSHIP 7 NORTH, RANGE 9 EAST, HUGHES COUNTY, OKLAHOMA.
CAUSE CD NO. 200602939

AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting that the Commission enter an order establishing drilling and spacing units in the manner hereinafter set forth.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the following special relief: Applicant requests that the Commission enter an order establishing 160-acre drilling and spacing units for the production of gas from the Calvin, Senora, Earlsboro, Bartlesville, Savannah, Booch, Hartshorne, Upper Gilcrease, Lower Gilcrease, Wapanucka, Union Valley, Cromwell, Woodford, Misener, Hunton, Viola and Wilcox common sources of supply underlying the SE/4 of Section 3, SW/4 of Section 2 and the NE/4 of Section 10, all in Township 7 North, Range 9 East, Hughes County, Oklahoma. Applicant further requests that the order to be entered in this cause be made effective on some date prior to the date of the hearing. Applicant further requests that the order to be entered in this cause be made effective on some date prior to the date of the hearing.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be set before an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence and reporting to the Commission.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, First Floor, Jim Thorpe Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m., on the 16th day of May, 2006, and that this notice be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, First Floor, Jim Thorpe Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m., on the 16th day of May, 2006, and that this notice be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.
NOTICE IS FURTHER

GIVEN that in the event this cause is uncontested, the Applicant, its Attorney, representatives, witnesses and other proponents of the Applicant may appear and conduct the hearing by telephone from the Tulsa office facility, 440 S. Houston, Suite 114, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127.
NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this action contact SCOTT RICHEY, MARBET, LLC, 3316 Woodsboro, Norman, OK 73072, Telephone: (405) 485-9710, and/or Gregory L. Mahaffey, Attorney, 300 N.E. 1st STREET, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73104-4004, Telephone: (405) 236-0478.
CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA
JEFF CLOUD
CHAIRMAN
DENISE A. BODE
VICE CHAIRMAN
BOB ANTHONY
COMMISSIONER
DONE AND PERFORMED this 18th day of April, 2006.
BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:
PEGGY MITCHELL
SECRETARY OF THE COMMISSION

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is posted and/or published in order to permit citizen residents of the Muscogee Creek Nation to examine and appraise the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's 2006 application for funds to the Department of Housing & Urban Development Indian Community Development Block Grant Program, (DHUD-ICDBG).
The Muscogee Creek Nation is providing this notice to comply with 24 CFR 1003.604 Citizen Participation Requirements. This public notice follows traditional means of citizen resident participation, and involvement. It is being provided to furnish citizen residents with information concerning the amounts of funds available from HUD for proposed community development and the range of activities that may be undertaken under the ICDBG Program for Indian Tribes.
The amount of funds available, (grant ceilings), in 2006 to applicants per application in the Southern Plains Region of the DHUD is \$800,000. In respect to the range of activities that may be undertaken the follow-

ing applies:
The purpose of the Community Development Block Grant Program for Indian Tribes and Alaska Native Villages (ICDBG) is the development of viable Indian and Alaska Native communities, including the creation of decent housing, suitable living environments, and economic opportunities primarily for persons with low and moderate-incomes as defined in 24 CFR 1003.4 The Office of Native American Programs, (ONAP), in Hud's Office of Public and Indian Housing administers the program.
Projects funded by the ICDBG Program must meet the primary objective, defined at 24 CFR 1003.2, to principally benefit low and moderate income persons. Consistent with this objective, not less than 70% of the expenditures of each single purpose grant shall be for activities which meet the regulatory criteria at 24 CFR 1003.208 for:
(1) Area Benefit Activities,
(2) Limited Clientele Activities,
(3) Housing Activities and
(4) Job Creation or Retention Activities.
ICDBG funds may be used to improve housing stock, provide community facilities, improve infrastructure, and expand job opportunities by supporting the economic development of the communities, especially by non profit tribal organizations or local development corporations. Federally Recognized Indian Tribes are eligible applicants.
The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has prepared an application for submission to DHUD to provide community facilities, the construction of a Community Higher Education Facility. The grant will be used in its entirety for construction costs.
The Community Development Statement of the application is available for citizen resident review and comment at the Muscogee Creek Nation Planning Department located at hwy 75 and Loop 56 in Okmulgee, Ok, 74447. The Community Development Statement will be available for public review and comment for a two week time period from May 8, 2006 through May 22, 2006, during regular business hours. The CD Statement and a staff person will be available through 7:00 p.m. on May 22, 2006 at the BIA Conference Room in the Headquarters Administration Building at highway 75 Loop 56 Okmulgee, OK 74447, to meet the public meeting portion of the citizen participation requirements. For information call Julie Moss, Tribal Grant Writer at 918-732-7607.
Citizen residents are invited to review and comment on the Community Development Statement contents of the grant application. Citizen residents are also invited to review and comment on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's performance under any active Community Development Block Grant.

NOTICE
PROPOSED GRAZING
LEASES - RESTRICTED
INDIAN LAND
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR - BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
OKMULGEE FIELD
OFFICE
(PROPERTY AVAILABLE TO LEASE)

Sealed bids will be received until June 17, 2006, 10:00 am CST and opened at that time in the office of the Superintendent, Creek Nation Tribal Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma for the leasing of Restricted Indian land, described herein. The right is reserved to reject any bid and withhold approval of a lease even though submitted as a result of an accepted bid. In the event two or more high bids on a tract are in the same amount, the bidders submitting the tie high bids may be required to draw lots or submit sealed rebids to determine the successful bidder.

The lessee will be required to furnish with each lease a satisfactory surety bond in the amount that is reasonably assure performance of the contractual obligations under the lease.

To obtain more information and the proper bid forms, please contact:

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Realty Trust Services
Sonya Lytch, 918-732-7713
Sabrina Pike, 918-732-7703
Chris Natseway, 918-732-7709
or you may write:
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
Att: Realty Trust Services
P.O. Box 580

Okmulgee, OK 74447

LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS:

Lot 4 of Section 6-T8N-R13E, McIntosh Co., 40 Acres more or less.

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In the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Okmulgee District
In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of S.L. G., a Minor
Case No. G2005-06
Judge Patrick E. Moore
SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
To: Myia Natrice Cole and Celester Lamont German

TAKE NOTICE that a petition for Permanent Guardianship has been filed in the District court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee district, Case No. G2005-06, styled In the Matter of the Guardianship of the Person and Estate of S.L.G. (date of birth: April 18, 2001). The action alleges that the Petitioners are entitled to an Order appointing the Petitioners as Co-Guardians of the Person and Estate of S.L.G.
You are notified that you must answer the Petition filed by the Petitioners on or before the 10th day of July, 2006, at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court, at 10:00a.m. Okmulgee, OK, or the allegations contained in the Petition will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of Petitioners as prayed for in the Petition.
Given under my hand and seal this 25th day of April, 2006

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District
Marva Proctor, Deputy
Prepared by: Melia Brooke Arnett
Student Clinician
Approved By: Kathleen R. Supernaw, MCN #360
Lori J. Guevara, MCN #199
Joseph L. Mrstik, MCN #396
Attorney for Petitioners
407 South Florence Avenue
Tulsa, Oklahoma 74104-2430
(918) 631-5799 telephone
(918) 631-5798 facsimile

• • • • •

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
OKMULGEE DISTRICT
IN THE MATTER OF:
C.D., C.D., A.D., and D.D.
Deprived Children
Case No. JV-2003-19
NOTICE OF HEARING
TO: Connie Dansby
YOU ARE HEREBY
GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 8th day of June, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.
YOU ARE HEREBY
INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the children remain wards of the Court and custody be continued in the Children and Family Services Administration for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.
I have herunto set my hand this 20th day of April, 2006.
/s/ Patrick E. Moore
District Court Judge

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration
P.O. Box 580
Okmulgee, OK 74447
(918) 732-7869

March District Court filings Continued
Criminal Misdemeanor:
• MCN v. James Scott
Public Intoxication
Ct. 2 Battery
• MCN v. Gilbert Conner
Ct. 1: Public Intoxication
Divorce
• Randy Lee July v. Patricia Ravaugh July
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
• Laura Ann Keele v. Donald Lee Keele Jr.
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Protective Orders:
• Annette Hill v. Reginald D. Scott
Ex-Parte
• Martha Tilley & Trudy Frank

v. Kelly & Donald Adkins Ex-Parte
• Tamrah Frazier v. Richard Moffitt
Ex-Parte
Traffic:
• MCN v. Shannon Johnson
No Insurance
• MCN v. Shannon Johnson
Expired Tag
• MCN v. Melissa Donka
Expired Tag
• MCN v. Damon Morris
Operating Motor Vehicle while License is Suspended
• MCN v. James Vernon
Expired Tag
• MCN v. Marleena Rubinsak
No Valid Drivers license
• MCN v. Marleena Rubinsak
No Valid Insurance
• MCN v. Marleena Ruvinsak
Expired Tag
• MCN v. Christine Shepherd
Operating Motor Vehicle while Drivers License is Suspended
• MCN v. Donnie Maltby
Possession of Illegal Drugs
• MCN v. Michael Farley
No Insurance
• MCN v. Michael Farley
Expired Tag
• MCN v. James Brashear
Duty in Event of Accident
• MCN v. Daniel Gomez
Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Ricky Carnell
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
• MCN v. Stewart Booker
Driving without Required Registration
• MCN v. Stewart Booker
Driving Under Suspension
• MCN v. Amber Cheney
Open Receptacle
• MCN v. Kristina Roberts
No Insurance
• MCN v. Michael Puckett
Driving Under Suspension
• MCN v. Ezequiel Garcia
Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Justin Lee Carter
Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage
• MCN v. Justin Lee Carter
Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Debbie A. McCaskill
No Drivers License
• MCN v. Roy Lee Anderson
Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Kevin E. Vanzant
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
• MCN v. Billy Thibodeaux Jr.
Expired Tag
• MCN v. Billy Thibodeaux Jr.
No Insurance
• MCN v. Anna Maria Little
No Insurance
• MCN v. James A. Davis
No Drivers License
• MCN v. James A. Davis
Failure to Comply
Compulsory Insurance
• MCN v. Steven Ray Salts
Driving Under Suspension
No Insurance
• MCN v. Steven Ray Salts
No Insurance
• MCN v. Jessica Ann Rupe
Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage

April District Court filings Civil
• Security Finance v. Alice Locust
Small Claims
• Star Loans of Texas v. Walter Jones
Small Claims
• Star Loans of Texas v. Christine King
Small Claims
• Star Loans of Texas v. Ruth Bible
Small Claims
• Star Loans of Texas v. Barbara West
Small Claims
• Lennie Wilcots v. Okemah Casino
Petition
• Jesse Gallegos
Petition for Change of Name
• Royal Finance v. George Polecat
Small Claims
• Christopher Davenport v. Randi Shields
Petition to Establish Paternity
• Creditors Recovery Corp. v. Lloyd & Annetta Stidham
Foreign Judgment
• Car-Mart v. Theresa Jackson
Small Claims
Criminal Felonies:
• MCN v. Bryan Anderson
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
Ct. 3: Possession of Illegal Drug
• MCN v. Anthony Cox
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
Ct. 2: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
• MCN v. Jack Butler
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
• MCN v. Jerry Reid
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
• MCN v. Daniel Bourassa
Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
Criminal Misdemeanor:
• MCN v. Alexis Perez
Ct. 1 Public Intoxication
Ct. 2. Resisting Arrest
• MCN v. Mary Jane Raney
Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Ronald Cayatineto

Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct
Divorce:
• Esther June Fixico v. Jacob Michael Fixico
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
• LaResa Marie Slinker v. Little Chofolope Lindsey
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
• Jerri Renee Renfro v. Kelly Wayne Renfro
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
• Cassandra Harjo v. Pahose Harjo
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
• Robert Joseph Wilson Jr. v. Brenda June Wilson
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
• Jennifer Stanfield v. Carey Stanfield
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
• Lee Frazier v. Franklin Earl Frazier II
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Family Domestic:
• Tribal Child Support Enforcement, Ex. Rel., Petition for Determination of Paternity
Chenoa Green v. John Severs and Establishment of Child Support
• TCSE, Ex. Rel., Kimberly Coachman v. Petition for Determination of Paternity
Jeremy A. Factor
Establishment of Child Support
Protective Orders:
• Roxanne Jones v. Marcus Lawrence
Ex-Parte
• George Polecat v. Chumona Deere Polecat
Ex-Parte
• Roxanne; Marissa & Mahiya Jones v. Marcus Lawrence
Ex-Parte
Traffic:
• MCN v. Walter Rex Hampton
Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Jeffrey Swimmer
No Drivers License
• MCN v. Floyd Dale Welch
No Drivers License
• MCN v. Tommy Hugh Crow
No Drivers License
• MCN v. Gary Wayne Anderson
Improper Tag
• MCN v. Lucy M. Linden
Expired Tag
• MCN v. Joe Ben Brown
Trespass
• MCN v. Mary Jane Raney
Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Gregorio Gaytan
Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Timothy Dale Robinson
Open Receptacle
• MCN v. Bryan Anderson
Invalid Drivers License
• MCN v. Jeffrey Swimmer
No Drivers License
• MCN v. Samuel Sidney Lee
Open Receptacle
• MCN v. Stephen Jay Walls
Possession of Illegal Drugs
• MCN v. Kyle Miller
Minor in Possession of Alcohol
• MCN v. Mary Jo Tannehill
Expired Tag
• MCN v. Jose Gustavo Lopez
Open Receptacle Containing Alcoholic Beverage
• MCN v. Deborah Swaim
Driving without Required Registration
• MCN v. Sandoval Jimenez
Invalid Drivers License
• MCN v. Timothy Rose
Reckless Driving
• MCN v. Joshua Phillip Sallee
Minor in Possession of Alcohol
• MCN v. Larry Dale Jamison
Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Larry Dale Jamison
Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Bobby Joe Comfort
No Insurance
• MCN v. Bobby Joe Comfort
Expired Tag
• MCN v. Joseph Ballard
Possession of Liquor on Tribal Land
• MCN v. James Travis
Driving Under Suspension
• MCN v. Bruce Thomas
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
• MCN v. Dustin Wadsworth
Disorderly Conduct
• MCN v. Sandoval Jimenez
Invalid Drivers License
• MCN v. Gerald Gaston
Possession of Alcohol on Tribal Land
• MCN v. Roger Duane Mills Jr.
Possession of Illegal Drug with Intent to Distribute
• MCN v. Bethany Rachel Mills
Driving without Required Registration
• MCN v. Bethany Rachel Mills
Driving on Tribal Property with Revoked License
• MCN v. Amy Lee Shelton
Possession of Illegal Drug with Intent to Distribute
• MCN v. Kevin Albert Weeks
Driving Under Suspension
• MCN v. Martin Michael Young
Disorderly Conduct

Letters Continued From Page A2

(BMA 2002) and from the University of Michigan (MM 2004). I am currently working on a dissertation project for my doctorate at the University of Michigan. As well as being a singer, I am deeply interested in furthering the role of the Native American in contemporary classical music. I have, thus, decided to make my dissertation topic center around a very important man from the Muscogee Nation, the poet (and my great, great, great uncle) Alex Posey. I am asking composers who are interested in joining me on my project to write a song, or a set of songs, for female voice and piano based on Posey's texts to be performed on my final dissertation recital. As far as I can tell, nothing like this has been done with any Native American poet in the past. I am hoping to eventually publish the works, with the permission of the composers. Each composer will receive a copy of the performance CD, a chance to be involved in a world premiere performance, and the opportunity to get their music heard in a venue where they might otherwise not. Along with that is the possibility of hopefully getting these works published and archived with the Muscogee Nation. I am very much looking forward to this project, and I hope to have as many talented composers involved as possible. I would be very pleased to have other Muscogee Nation Citizens involved in this project, whether it be as a composer or in some other capacity. Anyone who is interested can contact me at the information below.
Kirsten C. Kunkle
419-680-8108
kkunkle@umich.edu
535 South Park Avenue
Fremont, OH 43420

• • • • •
A Word of Thanks
I would like to say "Thank You" and acknowledge some individuals for contributing their time and resources toward a community effort. In the smaller communities within the Creek boundaries, our children's educational access and availability to

computers is greatly hampered. The local libraries are usually open weekdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and seldom available on week-ends.
In September 2005, the Creek Nation offered surplus computers through the GSA department. Many of the computers needed to be refurbished in order to operate properly.
This is how an educational obstacle was resolved. Chief A.D. Ellis's office was very cooperative in expediting the paperwork to obtain the surplus computers from the GSA department. John West, GSA employee, went out of his way to make sure the components were compatible and in good condition. Wes Clark, the computer repair/networking instructor at Wes Watkins Technology Center did not hesitate to offer his repair services and assist the families in the Wetumka community. To date, nine families with children have received computers.
Once again, a sincere "Thank You" to Chief A.D. Ellis and his office, John West-GSA Department and Wes Clark at Wes Watkins Technology Center.
MVTO
Rev. David Dunson

• • • • •
Thank You
The family of Thomas Charles Minyard wishes to thank everyone who sent cards, food, money, and well-wishes to us during the time of our loss and sadness.
Thank you to Creek Nation and the Bureau of Indian Affairs for their support in this endeavor and to anyone who might have said a prayer for our Family.
So much love and support were given during this difficult time of deep sadness that we cannot begin to thank everyone enough. Just know that our love and prayers go out to all of you.
Humble appreciation is acknowledged to Brother Ernie Margwarth and the ladies of the Salem Baptist Church for the beautiful service and lovely dinner.
Jonathan Frank Minyard & the Family of Thomas Charles Minyard



Jerean Elizabeth Mosquito



Jerean Mosquito

MOUNDS- Jerean celebrated her third birthday on Feb. 11 with a party at her home with family and friends. She also attended the Omniplex museum in Oklahoma City.

She is the daughter of Jacob and Misty Mosquito of Mounds.

Maternal grandparents are Eddie and Beth Shelton of Middletown, Ohio. Paternal grandparents are Craig and Debbie Mosquito of Mounds.

Maternal great grandparents are Dr. Ray and Jean Shelton of Waynesville, Ohio and the late Harold Gallagher and Betty Gallagher-Gragg. Paternal great grandparents are Joe Mosquito of Hectorville and the late Lena Mosquito and Tom and Mary Shirley.

She has one sister, Alexandria.

Alicia Mae McGirt



Alicia Mae McGirt

EUFULA - Alicia Mae McGirt celebrated her first birthday on April 24.

She is the daughter of Joe McGirt and Taiwana Deere of Eufaula.

Those attending the party were her brothers, Stephen Deere, Anthony, Adam and Joey McGirt and other family and friends.

Maternal grandparents are Debbie Deere of Eufaula and the late Larry Deere Sr. Bertha Lindsey of Shawnee.

Paternal grandmother is Christy Estep of Eufaula.

She is the great granddaughter of the late Berry Mae McGirt of Eufaula.

Richenda Hicks & Paul Roberts



Paul Roberts & Richenda Hicks

OKEMAH - Paul Roberts of Broken Bow will celebrate his 33rd birthday on June 26.

He is married to April Billy.

Paul's sister, Richenda Hicks will also celebrate her birthday in June. Richenda will be 32 on June 5.

She is married to Oscar Hicks.

They are the children of James and Kizzie Roberts of Cromwell and the grandchildren of Leefanie Roberts of Tupelo.

MUSCOGEE PEOPLE

Chace Hunter Tiger



Chace Tiger

ROUND ROCK, TEXAS — Chace Hunter Tiger is in the seventh grade at Ridgeview Middle School. He participates in all-star baseball, starting quarterback, violinist, and applicant of the Duke University Talent Identification Program.

Chace is an "A" student and was invited based on his academic achievements to apply for the DUKE TIP Program. Only the top 5% of students are invited to apply for the program. Chace took his ACT in Feb. and scored a 19 overall at the age of 13, which is the top 24% of the top 5% who were invited to apply.

Tiger would like to attend a program either at OU or Texas A&M this summer.

He is the son of Chebon Coleman and Carla Tiger of Round Rock, Texas. Maternal grandparents are Mary Girty of Tahlequah and Chuck Girty of Garland, Texas. Paternal grandparents are Marcy Tiger of Lorton, Virginia and T.J. Stand of Tahlequah.

He has two siblings, Chelsey, 10 and Christian, 4.

Art Under the Oaks names top artists



Scott Roberts

MUSKOGEE — Scott Roberts' entry "Black Drink Set," traditional pottery, received the top honor as Best of Show at an awards reception at Art Under the Oaks Art Show and Sale at Five Civilized Tribes Museum.

"Mvskoke Tradition Dress" by Lillian Thomas was a first-place winner in the textiles division.

Scott Roberts came out the big winner in the knapping division, first and third for "Spud" and "Gar Pipe."

In the pottery/hand built division, second place winner was Scott Roberts "Black Effigy Owl with Rattle in Head."

Art Under the Oaks Art Show and Sale was sponsored by the Muskogee Phoenix.

BIRTHS

Anessa Renae & Amaya Nicole Switch



Anessa Renae & Amaya Nicole Switch

OKLAHOMA CITY - Anessa Renae and Amaya Nicole Switch were born Oct. 16 at Deaconess Hospital in Oklahoma City to Karianne Frye and Jason Switch.

Anessa weighed 2 pounds and 15 ounces and Amaya weighed 3 pounds and 1 ounce and they were both 16 inches in length.

Maternal grandparents are Johnny Frye Sr. and Marion Bunny Frye of Del City. Paternal grandparents are Genese Switch of Midwest City and the late Willie Switch.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Hepsey Walker Frye. Paternal great grandparents are Lucille Dunson and the late Rev. Earl Dunson.

They are members of the Bird clan.

Series

Continued From Page B1

in their village three days before and the Pawnee Chief was flying the Spanish flag over his lodge. Captain Pike exchanged a United States flag for the Spanish flag and left the Pawnee Nation traveling south to the Arkansas River.

They arrived on the north bank of the Arkansas River in October where the tiny force split, Lieutenant Wilkinson and five soldiers were to follow the Arkansas River downstream in boats constructed on the river bank out of cottonwood logs. Captain Pike and the rest of the force rode west along the Arkansas River to its headwater. Pike's column was arrested by the Spanish somewhere in the Rocky Mountains and jailed first in Santa Fe and later at Chihuahua, Mexico where they spent considerable time confined.

The Wilkinson party traveling south was forced to abandon their boats due to shallow water. They proceeded on foot and spent the months of November and December in present day Oklahoma. Wilkinson visited the future sites of Claremore and Pawhuska before returning to the river.

The winter of 1806 was particularly severe with ice covering the Arkansas River from bank to bank. Wilkinson's journal on December 3, 1806 contains the following passage "this circumstance placed me in a situation truly distressing, my men are almost naked; tatters which cover them are comfortless and my ammunition is nearly exhausted." Three days later the ice pack broke and the Wilkinson party continued southeast with the river ice.

Lieutenant Wilkinson's small force finally reached Webbers

Falls on Dec. 29, passed the mouth of the Poteau River on Dec. 31 and on New Year's Day 1807 left Oklahoma for the Mississippi.

Wilkinson's journal is the first well-written account of north-eastern Oklahoma. The Lieutenant wrote of passing many Osage villages, also Cherokee, Creek and Choctaw towns inhabited by these early arrivals from Alabama, Georgia and Tennessee, he also reported numerous trappers on the Poteau River and streams feeding the Arkansas River.

There would not be another United States expedition into present day Oklahoma until 1811.

In 1805, Louisiana Territory was created by Congress with a territory capital at Saint Louis

and Army General James Wilkinson, the father of explorer Lieutenant James Wilkinson, was named governor.

Then in 1812 Congress changed its mind and created Missouri Territory with territorial control over Oklahoma. The fickle Congress again changed its collective mind and during 1819 present day Arkansas and Oklahoma was organized by Congress into Arkansas Territory.

The Arkansas territorial legislature between 1819 and 1829 organized two counties, Crawford and Miller, in what is now the eastern one third of Oklahoma. This same territory was later removed from Arkansas' territorial control by congressional action and the lands reserved for the Five Civilized Tribes as part of the enticement to get them to move from their ancestral lands in the east to Indian Territory.

Muscogee Nation News
P.O. Box 580
muscogeenation-nsn.gov

ACCOMPLISHMENT

Brandy Coonhead

MUSKOGEE — Brandy Coonhead, a sophomore at Bristow High School entered into a Indian student art show and won third prize. Over 300 works were entered in this contest.

Brandy has the privilege to visit the Tiger Art Gallery.

She is the daughter of Sunny and Juanita Wacohe of Bristow and the granddaughter of the late Mary Coonhead.

Sheena Michele DePriest



Sheena Michele DePriest

OKMULGEE - Sheena Michele DePriest graduated from Oklahoma State University on May 6 with a degree in Business Administration with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting Finance.

Sheena is the daughter of Michael and Shelly DePriest of Glenpool and the granddaughter of Mitchell and Verda DePriest of Bixby.

Sheena will work with Williams Companies in Tulsa as staff auditor.

Brittany Precious Dawn Fisher



Brittany Fisher

MUSKOGEE - Brittany Fisher has been chosen as a State Finalist in the 2006 Miss Oklahoma Princess Pageant to be held at the Southern Hills Marriott of Tulsa on June 16-17.

She attends Pre-K at Bradley Elementary. Brittany enjoys going to church, singing and dancing, swimming and camping, shopping, collecting care bears, Barbie dolls and strawberry shortcake stuff, and most of all spending as much time as she can with her family and friends.

She is the daughter of Shanda and Spencer Conner of Drumright and Jason and Leisha Davis of Sand Springs.

Brittany has four brothers and one sister; Joe Horn and Isaiah Conner of Drumright; Austin and Ceirra Davis of Sand Springs; and Jordan Tatershall of Modesto, California.

Fisher is the granddaughter of Mildred Fisher of Oilton and Johnny Fisher of Jennings; Melba and Steve Wethorton of Tulsa and Larry Davis; Spencer

and Trish Conner of Sapulpa; and Willie and Ginny Horn of Tulsa.

She is the great granddaughter of John and Dorthey Fisher of Oilton; James Alverson of Dec Ark, Arkansas; Joann and Melven Davis of Tulsa; and Ed Brown of Tulsa.

Alexandria Renee Mosquito



Alexandria Renee Mosquito

BROKEN ARROW - Alexandria Mosquito was one of the six students chosen to represent her school in "Circle Around the State with a Song" on Feb. 4. Students are chosen by their music director based on their ability to sing and perform. She was among 270 students from area schools that performed opera style songs as well as songs in Latin.

Alexandria is in the fourth grade and attends Mounds elementary. She is active in basketball and softball.

She is the daughter of Jacob and Misty Mosquito of Mounds. Alexandria has one sister, Jerean.

Eufaula Indian Community receive funds for skating rink



Front Row / Seated: Kasey McKenzie, Chief A. D. Ellis, Larry and Karen Armstrong. Second Row / Standing: National Council Representative Tom Pickering, Jimmy Jones, Head of the Eufaula Community, and Secretary Jan McQay.

Photo By Josh Slane

OKMULGEE — On April 14th the Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and the National Council signed a \$700,000 check to the Eufaula Indian Community to purchase and renovate a skating rink for use as their community center building. Renovations to the building include a garage for the community center's vans, a kitchen for the elderly, a fence, and housing for security. The community center has been using the skating rink as their place of meeting for over a year free of charge.

Don't Forget the Muskogee Creek Nation Festival Next Month. Get all the Details In Section C of This Issue.

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4 Love of the Game All-Stars Way Out West for Big Tourney

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

DENVER – On April 5, three buses carrying Indian All-Stars navigated through the Kansas plains heading for the Rocky Mountains and the 21st Annual Amerind All-West Native American Basketball Classic. The All-Stars, hand picked from their respective teams from the All-Indian March Madness Tournament, were sponsored by 4 Love of the Game organization. 4 Love of the Game picked up the reins and the check, taking care of the players’ travel, lodging and expenses. In addition to that, the players also were taken on two occasions to get a glimpse of the professional side of sports. They attended a Colorado Rockies Major League Baseball game and closed their trip with a Saturday night visit to the Pepsi Center to watch the Denver Nuggets.

But make no mistake about it, these kids were there for one reason, to win some basketball games and they did just that. Both 4 Love of the Game teams, boys and girls, came out firing and accumulated an overall undefeated combined record of 8-0 after the first two days of pool play. In girls pool play action it was solid guard play that set the tone for the All-Stars as Misty Haley of Oktaha and Sequoyah phenom Angel Goodrich harassed opposing ball-handlers all day long forcing turnover after turnover that led to easy transition buckets. It was a bit of a laughter throughout the entire pool play session for the girls as they never won by less than 20 points and beat one team by more than 50. The boy’s side was a bit more of an adventure. Inside play and tough defense was the key early as sharpshooters T.J. Hooper of Sequoyah and Trevan Jimboy of Latta took a few games to get heated up from the perimeter. When they did, it was smooth sailing. The highlight of the day for the boy’s team was their third game. Squandering a late five point lead, the boys were faced with what could have been their first loss trailing by three with 3.6 seconds to play in regulation. But Trevan Jimboy caught the inbounds pass just in front of the half-court line, weaved through two defenders and got his shot off at the buzzer. He canned the three, and the boys

used the momentum from the heroics to propel them to an overtime victory. Their respective records coming out of pool play earned both squads entry into the tournaments top division, the Gold bracket. The girls drawing the top seed and the boys seeded third.

“There were over 50 teams from many states represented,” said Lucas Taylor, 4 Love of the Game founder and trip coordinator. “For both of our teams to go undefeated in pool play and both make the Gold bracket, speaks volumes about the talents of our kids and the commitment they made.”

The streak, and the weekend, would unfortunately come to an end for the boy’s team as they were eliminated in the tournament’s first game by eventual Gold bracket champion, the Lakota Regulators. The girls team outlasted fellow Oklahoma participants Comanche Nation in their first game but could not overcome the freakishly hot shooting of the Apsalooke Jammerz from Montana in the second round and were eliminated with a third place finish. The teams had nothing to hang their heads about, however, as they came out of a competitive tournament feeling pride after going toe-to-toe with any team put in their path and appreciating the good times they shared. “It was just a bunch of Indians, getting together and playing some ball, we had a blast,” said Vfastv Locust, who played for the boy’s team.

4 Love of the Game was not only represented by Oklahoma but from other states as well. Team members for the girls were; Angel Goodrich (Tahlequah, OK) Shawna Singleterry (Tahlequah, OK) Sade Horsechief (Tahlequah, OK) Kelsi Vass (Paden, OK) Misty Haley (Oktaha, OK) Erin Jent (Vinita, OK) Nikki Lewis (Tahlequah, OK) Vanna Moses (San Carlos, NM) and Allie Dreadfulwater (Grangeville, ID). Team members from the boys team were; Vfastv Locust (Vian, OK) TJ Hooper (Tahlequah, OK) Dallas Morrison (Tahlequah, OK) Zach Goodrich (Tahlequah, OK) Michael Soap (Tahlequah, OK) Trevan Jimboy (Latta, OK) Caleb Boatright (Henryetta, OK) Drexler Tangle (Philadelphia, MS) Jerrod McMillan (Choctaw, MS) and Marvin Battle (New Lima, OK).



Hot Corner

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

It’s the May edition of Hot Corner and things are definitely heating up in the sports world. As we inch closer to the dog days of summer, one can only guess that there are a lot of things to keep an eye on in the coming months.

Will Barry Bonds overcome nagging injuries, fan hatred and media scrutiny to become the all-time home run king? My guess is that Aaron’s mark is safe, but unfortunately by the time this paper hits the press Bonds will likely have passed Babe Ruth as number two on the distinguished list. To this writer, that will be a sad day. Barry Bonds is everything that is wrong with baseball. Babe Ruth got his power on the diamond

from booze, steaks and cigars. Bonds got his from the “clear” and the “cream.” While I certainly wouldn’t say that the Babe had the best method, at least he didn’t cheat to get a record and Bonds did. Baseball won’t recognize the accomplishment and that is a good indication of where he has put himself. The few sports fans out there who support Bonds should recognize that and at least be thankful that Aaron’s record should be safe.

In a rather stunning development, pro basketball has actually provided a postseason worth talking about. The NBA playoffs have not been this good since Jordan and Co. were running the show. Teams like Sacramento and Los Angeles have reminded us that this league can get our blood pumping like it used to. That should be something of a wel-

come sight for Commissioner David Stern, who has to recognize the growing disinterest in his association over the last few years. Can you really blame him though? Look at all the great players from those glorious early to mid 90’s who have retired in the last few years. When you see Patrick Ewing on the sidelines coaching, it not only makes you feel old, but reminds you that those guys were great and that’s an awfully hard act to follow. I just don’t know if it can ever be as good as Lakers-Celtics or Bulls-Knicks ever again. We’ll see.

Also, this time of year is also great for us Indian people because the softballs start flying around. I love to play softball, just the overall feeling you get to be out at a tournament or a league game around everyone playing ball, it can’t be replaced. Some of my earliest memories as a kid would be going to watch my Dad play in softball tournaments that would last all night long. I remember the stories he would tell me and my brother about mammoth shots he’d seen or microwaved softballs bouncing back up to you if you dropped them on the ground. We thought him and his teammates were major league stars. See it’s not just that it’s the game

and the competition, that’s a big part of it. But a bigger part is the times you have and the memories you take away from those times. Those out there that play and love to be around the game, know what I’m talking about.

In last month’s Hot Corner commented on how the Kelvin Sampson move to Indiana was a good one for Oklahoma. Now, Jeff Caple is the head man at OU and while a lot of Sooner faithful are getting on him about the three departed recruits, I think he is the right man for the job. Who’s to say those recruits would not have left any way? Let’s remember, they were five star recruit athletes, and those types don’t stay around when Kelvin Sampson has the reins. Let’s see, Kelvin in all his years at OU only landed two McDonald’s All-Americans, Ryan Humphrey and Drew Lavender. Well, we all know the story. They got in two years at OU, realized the style of play that was implemented and packed their bags for other schools. The real question here is why these recruits did not give Caple a chance. Caple is capable. He has the pedigree and the savvy to get the most out of whoever wants to play for him, and those three would have been no different. Until next time . . .

Cultural Continued From Page B2

As we clear discarded items, we are always looking for ways to utilize the resources in productive and positive ways. We would be thrilled if a tire company who has the capability of shredding tires would commit to the task and then donate the remnants to an appropriate educational facility for playground usage.”

The mound of abandoned tires on an American Indian site awaiting removal is an image

reminiscent of the powerful 1970’s television commercials that became a compelling symbol of the anti-littering campaign. What beautiful irony for this special commemoration to take place with these tires reminding all of the incredible partnership and commitment between city, state and tribal communities to continue the process of positively transforming this city and great state.

OLD SCHOOL

vs.

NEW SCHOOL

Is The Major League Baseball Season Too Long?

New school


Absolutely not! How can you get your fill of America’s past-time? When you look back on a season and you are a team I don’t think there can be anything more satisfying than a division title in baseball. That’s because there are 162 games and you have to go through ups and downs, injuries, trades and you have to do that while keeping it all together. Now there are some people that believe that baseball is boring and drawn out too much. That doesn’t bother me at all; it just lets me know that they don’t know the first thing about the greatest game there is.

Old school

Well, with all the ups and downs of a regular Major League baseball season which goes from April to September, longer for the minors, and for a lot of baseball players it really doesn’t end. Then take into considerations-contract arbitrations, injuries and just about everything else that is involved with Major League Baseball, the season does seem to extend itself quite a bit. But maybe that’s what the nation needs right now, with all the events today that seem to occupy our time today. But the facade of an extended season does seem to make the season look like it goes on forever.

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MUSCOGEE NATION



FESTIVAL 2006

PRESERVING OUR CULTURE IN A CHANGING WORLD





June 2 & 3 Scholarship Pageant

The festival will kick off with the Miss and Jr. Miss Mvskoke Scholarship Pageant on June 2 at 7 p.m., followed by the Little Miss and Sr. Miss Mvskoke on June 3 starting at 10 a.m. Both pageants will be held at the Henryetta High School Auditorium.

On June 10, the newly crowned Mvskoke Royalty will make their first appearance at a reception held at the Creek Council House Museum beginning at 10 a.m. For more information, contact KoKo Lowe at (918) 732-7649.

June 9 & 10 Slow pitch Softball

Another fun event of the festival is the Men's, Women's and Co-ed Slow Pitch Softball tournament. This year's tournaments will have their own special weekend. Action starts on Friday, June 9 at 7 p.m. at the Claude Cox Omnplex and will continue on Saturday, June 10 beginning at 8 a.m. All participants must be from a federally recognized tribe. Balls will be provided. Prizes will be awarded for the top four teams, MVP awards, all tournament team, and Golden glove award. For further information contact Mallory Bible at (918) 732-7639 or Sheila Buckley at (918) 732-7933.



June 9 & 10 Junior Rodeo

Some of the youngest and best cowboys and cowgirls around are Native American and this year's festival showcases the youth as the Creek Festival hosts the Jr. Rodeo, in conjunction with the Northeast Youth Rodeo Association (NYRA), in the Omnplex. Events begin at 6 p.m. For more information contact Barry Branson at (918) 267-3182.

June 15 Stomp Dance

To open the full weekend of the 32nd Annual Creek Nation Festival, a Stomp Dance exhibition will be held on the grounds of the Claude Cox Omnplex, in front of the main stage.

Fellowship will begin at 6 p.m., and dancing will continue until 12 a.m. Everyone is invited. For more information contact David Proctor at (918) 756-8504.



June 15-17 Koweta Clinic Grand Opening

Koweta Health Clinic will have their grand opening Thursday, June 15 in Coweta, OK at 10 a.m. Tribal transit buses will be available for transportation to this event.

The Koweta Health Clinic will be having an open house on Friday and Saturday, June 16 & 17 and everyone is welcome to come by and tour the new facility.

June 16 Youth Olympics

Indian athletes begin at early age and the Junior Olympics give each one a chance to show their athletic ability. The Junior Olympics will take place at 9 a.m. on Friday, June 16 at Harmon Stadium in Okmulgee.

Competition events at the Olympics include: ages 6-7, 30-meter dash, 50-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and softball throw; ages 8-9, 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and softball throw; ages 10-11, 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and a hoop shoot; ages 12-13, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 400-meter relay, hoop shoot, and long jump; ages 14-15, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 400-meter relay, 1 mile run, hoop shoot, and long jump. For more information, contact Tanya Bardin or Dawn Edwards at (918) 732-7869.



June 16 Elderly Activities

Muscogee people never forget their elders, and that's no different during the Creek Festival, there's several special events planned just for them. Friday morning, June 16, behind the Housing building, starting at 9 a.m. there will be a quilt show contest with first place receiving \$200, second place receiving \$150, and third place receiving \$100. There will be a jacks contest with sign up starting at 9 a.m. Prizes will be:

first, \$50; second, \$30 and third, \$20. A horseshoes doubles tournament will be played, with registration at 9 a.m. First place will receive \$200, second place will receive \$100, and third place will receive \$50. There will be 18 games of bingo and door prizes. However, a citizenship card is required to claim prizes.



Arts and Crafts welcomed, with set up starting at 8 a.m. and must bring your own tables and chairs.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and Speaker of the National Council will be on hand to honor the original allottees starting at 1:30 p.m. For more information please call Donna Martin at (918) 732-7962.

June 16 Youth Basketball

The youth 3 on 3 basketball will be held Friday night on June 16th at the Claude Cox Omnplex starting at 5 p.m. The entry fee is \$40 and the deadline to enter is June 3rd. The divisions will be 8 - 10 co-



ed, 11 - 14 girls and 11 - 14 boys, and 15 - 18 girls and 15 - 18 boys.

Prizes will be sweatshirts for 1st place, t-shirts for 2nd and 3rd place, and hoodies for the MVP of each division. For more information please contact Celesta Johnson at (800) 219-9458.

June 16 - 18



Fast pitch Softball (Men & Women)

Always an exciting sporting event of the festival is the Men and Women's Fast Pitch Softball Tournament. Teams from all over the country will compete. This year's action will start on Friday, June 16 at the Claude Cox Omnplex and the fast pitches will keep on going through Sunday when the top two teams left standing will battle it out to call themselves the "2006 Creek Nation Festival Champions!" The first pitch is thrown at 6 p.m. on Friday, with Saturday and Sunday's action starting at 8 a.m. and continuing throughout the day at the Claude Cox Omnplex.

Deadline to enter this prestigious tournament is June 2. To find out more about each tournament and receive an entry form contact Dean Williams at (918) 732-7790 or Phil Booker at (918) 732-7694.



June 16-18 Golf

Golfers have a busy festival weekend ahead of them. There is a scramble on June 16 at Fountainhead Golf Course in Eufaula and costs \$50 to enter. Registration ends promptly at 11:30 a.m. and the scramble begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 17, is the qualifying round for the tournament, during which players schedule their own tee time. The tournament starts on June 18, and the top 3 placers in each flight are the winners. Registration for the tournament is open through Saturday and the tournament is Native American only. For more information, contact Bert Robinson at (918) 689-2547.

June 16 & 17 Gospel Singing

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Gospel Singing will kick off at 7 p.m. on June 16 at the OSU Extension Building. This year's event promises to bring forth that "old time religion" feel with some great southern gospel and contemporary singing that will be entertaining as well as inspirational. Performers tabbed for the event include: The Shipley Family, Felicia Eller, Oscar Higgs, The Kingdom Messengers and LeAnna Grissom. Don't forget to attend this time of refreshing for the



soul. You can experience great fellowship and uplifting music in the same setting. For more information on the Gospel Singing contact Geebon Gouge at (918) 732-7711.

June 16 & 17 Rodeo

The 32nd Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation All-Indian Rodeo takes place on June 16 and 17 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly at the Rodeo Arena, located at Highway 75 & Loop 56 behind the Travel Plaza. This year's event promises to include the excitement and entertainment that Festival rodeo fans have grown accustomed to. Entry fees will be accepted both nights at 5:30

p.m. Entry fees are \$75 for all events (Team roping \$75 per man and Junior events \$20 entry fee). Call-ins will be taken June 12 from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. The phone number is (580) 924-8112. Non-association members must purchase a \$15 permit. You must provide tribal enrollment card at time of



entry. There will be a \$10 stock charge, stock provided by Western Ways Rodeo Co. For more Rodeo information, call (918) 732-7650.

June 16 & 17 Concerts

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Concerts are one of the most anticipated events of the year and this year's entertainment is certain to not disappoint in that regard. Entertainers from many different backgrounds and styles will grace the big stage over the course of two days providing electrifying performances for those in attendance. All concerts will be performed on the main stage at the Claude Cox Omnplex.

Friday, June 16 entertainment will be: Charlie Redd and The Full Flava Kings, 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.; The Boogie Boys, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. and Irene Bedard and Deni Band, 8:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. The show closes out on Friday with headliners Lou Gramm & Foreigner from 10:30 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Saturday, June 17, line up includes: Irene Bedard and Deni Band, 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.; Second Chief Alfred Berryhill "Warm Welcome" Scholarship, 4 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Living Legends Ceremony, 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Chief Ellis "State of the Nation" Address, 5:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.; Mary Cogan, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.; Rhett Akins, 8:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. and Bryan White, 10:30 p.m. - 12 p.m.

June 16 & 17 Hymn Singing

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be hosting the 3rd Annual Creek Hymn Singing on the campus of OSU-Okmulgee at Covelle Hall on June 16 and 17 lasting from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. on both days. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center on both days. Shuttles to Covelle Hall from the Okmulgee Indian Community Center will be provided and will begin at noon. They will pick up and drop off every hour after departure. This event is a great chance to get in touch with the traditional singing of Creek people and witness one of the dearest facets of the Muscogee culture.



June 17 Horseshoes

The Horseshoe event this year will be held June 17, starting at 8 a.m. There will be a singles event and a doubles event. Each has a \$15.00 entry fee. Cash prizes to first, second, and third place, and for most ringers in one game (for singles only).

Players need to bring their



June 17 5k Walk/Run

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 5k Walk/Run will take place on June 17 at Highway 75 and Loop 56 on the Muscogee Nation Complex. Runners and walkers are to



report at 8 a.m. An entry fee of \$15 will be taken up to June 16. The entry fee will be \$20 on Race Day (includes T-shirt). Entry fee without T-shirt will be \$10. Limited number of shirts available. Trophies awarded to Overall Male and Female. Medals to top three finishers in each group. Age groups beginning 12 and under up to 70 and over. Ribbons to first three overall male and female walkers. This event is coordinated by Glen's Racing Service. For more information contact Lila Garrett at (918) 732-7869 or Melinda Taylor at (918) 732-7727. Register by mail: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival 5k Run/Walk, Attn: Lila Garrett, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.



June 17 Pow-wow

The Creek Nation's Festival's Pow-wow will be held on Saturday, June 17 at the OSU-Okmulgee Softball Field. The Gourd Dance will begin at 2 p.m., supper and registration will be at 5 p.m. A gourd dance will be at 6:30 p.m. Registration closes at 7:30 p.m. and the grand entry, social contests and dancing all begins at 8 p.m.

There are several contests including: Tiny Tots, Junior Boys; Junior Girls; Women's Cloth; Women's Buckskin; Women's Jingle; Women's Fancy Shawl; Men's Straight; Men's Fancy; Men's Grass; Men's Traditional; Golden Age Men (55+); Golden Age Women (55+); Drum Contests (Wireless Microphone will be provided).

For more information, contact Melinda Taylor and Pete Coser at (918) 732-7727.



June 17 Parade

The Second Annual Creek Nation Parade will be held in downtown Okmulgee. Parade entries must be submitted by Thursday, June 1st by 4:30 p.m. The line up numbers may be picked up at 10:30 a.m. All entries will be expected to be at

the line-up site at 11 a.m. The parade will go from West 6th and Alabama east to Porter Street. All winners will be notified.

June 17 Adult Basketball

The adult 3 on 3 basketball tournament will be held Saturday, June 17 at the Claude Cox Omnplex starting at 8 a.m. The entry fee is \$40. Prizes will be announced. For more information please contact Craig Mosquito at (918) 756-6473.

June 17 Child Safety Seat Check-up & Health Fair

The health fair and Child safety seat check-up will be held Saturday, June 17 starting at 9:30 a.m. with many different organizations giving out health and safety information and free goodies.

The Children's Clinic Staff of Okmulgee Indian Health Center (OIHC) will hold a child safety seat check-up clinic from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 17, at the Tribal Complex. Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians will check existing child safety seats to insure that they are correctly installed. For children whose existing safety seats have been recalled or are not functioning correctly, there will be a limited number of child safety seats to distribute on a first come, first served basis. Seats are limited to two per family. Parents will need to provide a tribal enrollment card or CDIB for the child. Child must be present to receive seat. For information, contact the Debra or Pam at (918) 758-1926.



June 17 Living Legends

One great event of the festival is the living legends ceremony. Created by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, the living legends ceremony honors Muscogee (Creek) citizens who have made significant contributions to the tribe. The ceremony takes place on Saturday afternoon, June 17, at the Omnplex main stage. National Council Speaker George Tiger and Native American actress Irene Bedard will emcee this year's event. Applications are still being accepted for this prestigious honor until May 25. For more information, contact Rachel Sumka at (918) 732-7604.


June 17 Arts Festival

The 2006 Creek Council House Indian Art Festival has become a part of the scheduled festivities and will take place on



Saturday, June 17 on the historic grounds of the Creek Council Museum. The Council House is located in downtown Okmulgee. Native American artists from all over the country will showcase their art in the formats of paint, sculpture, pottery, jewelry and metal. Juried art, children's events, food vendors as well as the Native Praise choir will entertain the audience. Events begin at 10 a.m. along with a Creek traditional fashion show to begin at 10:30 a.m. The art festival is held in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the arts. For more information, call (918) 732-2324.






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JUNE 9-10, 15-18 OKMULGEE, OK

CONTACT COORDINATOR FOR EACH EVENT

June 2nd & 3rd

Scholarship Pageant
Virginia Thomas 732-7939

Slowpitch Softball - Mallory Bible (918) 732-7639

June 9th & 10th

Slow Pitch Softball Tournament -Victor Bear (918) 261-2315

Junior Rodeo

June 15th

Stomp Dance - David Proctor - (918) 756-8504

June 16th

Youth Olympics - Tanya Bardin & Dawn Edwards (918) 732-7869

June 16th - 18th

Parade - Irene Culley (918) 756-9911, Ext. 334

Fastpitch Softball (Men & Women) - Dean Williams (918) 732-7790

Volleyball - Christine Denny (918) 296-3331

Basketball (Youth & Adult) - Craig Mosquito - (918) 756-6473

Horseshoes - Larry Soweka (918) 756-8504

Pow-wow - Dr. Cosar (918) 732-7727

Rodeo - Bob Arrington (918) 732-7650

Arts & Crafts - Melinda Taylor (918) 732-7727

Gospel Singing - Geebon Gouge (918) 732-7711

Creek Hymn Singing - Michael Coone

Senior Activities - Donna Martin (918) 732-7962

Golf Tournament - Bert Robinson (918) 689-2547

5-K Run - Lila Garrett (918) 732-7869

Art Contest/Fashion Show - Ted Isham (918) 756-2324

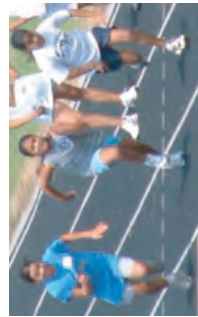
Musical Entertainment

Tulsa Casino & Salina Dornan (918) 732-7613

Vendors (Food) - Melissa Ambler (918) 732-7935

DOWNTOWN OKMULGEE

CREEK COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM



JUNIOR OLYMPICS
FRI JUNE 16, 8:30AM
HARMON STADIUM



COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM
106 W. 6th ST
PAGEANT RECEPTION
SAT JUNE 10, 10AM
ART CONTEST
SAT JUNE 17, 10AM
PARADE
SAT JUNE 17, 12:30PM
DOWNTOWN OKMULGEE

WOOD DR.

WOOD DR. (HWY 75)

US HWY 75

OTHER FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES

PAGEANTS

MISS & JUNIOR MISS
FRI JUNE 2, 7PM
LITTLE MISS & SENIOR MISS
SAT JUNE 3, 10AM

HENRYETTA HIGH SCHOOL
HENRYETTA, OK

KOWETA CLINIC GRAND OPENING

THURS JUNE 15, 10AM
31870 E. HIGHWAY 51

COWETA, OK

GOLF

FRI & SAT JUNE 16 & 17, 8 AM
FOUNTAINHEAD GOLF COURSE



CREEK HYMN SINGING
FRI & SAT JUNE 16-17, 1-6PM
COVELLE HALL
OSU-OKMULGEE

MISSION ST.

OSU - OKMULGEE CAMPUS



POW WOW
SAT JUNE 17, STARTS 2PM
OSU-OKMULGEE
SOFTBALL FIELD

CREEK COMPLEX 2 MI. >

LIVING LEGENDS & STATE OF THE NATION

SAT JUNE 17th **OMNIPLEX**

4:00PM - 4:30PM "Warm Mvskoke Welcome" Scholarship
4:30PM - 5:30PM Living legends Awards
5:30PM - 6:00PM Chief Ellis "State of the Nation" Address



GOSPEL EXPO

FRI JUNE 16, 7:00PM
SPECIAL SINGING
OSU EXTENSION BUILDING
ONE HALF MI. WEST
OF OMNIPLEX



OMNIPLEX



SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL- FRI & SAT JUNE 9-10, 7 PM

CHILDREN ACTIVITIES- SAT JUNE 10, 10AM

STOMP DANCE- THURS JUNE 15, 6PM-12

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FASTPITCH SOFTBALL-
FRI-SUN JUNE 16-18, STARTS 7PM FRI

VOLLEYBALL- SAT JUNE 17, 9AM

3 ON 3 YOUTH BASKETBALL- FRI JUNE 16, 5PM

3 ON 3 ADULT BASKETBALL- SAT JUNE 17, 8AM

HORSESHOES- SAT JUNE 17, 8:00AM

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT- FRI 4:30PM-12, SAT 3PM-12



MCN RODEO ARENA

JR. RODEO- SAT & SUN JUNE 10-11

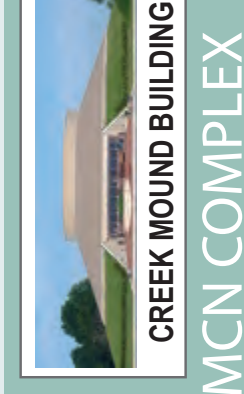
SR. RODEO- FRI & SAT JUNE 16-17

7 PM NIGHTLY

SLACK SATURDAY 17th 10AM

CREEK TRAVEL PLAZA

MEMORIAL PLAZA



CREEK MOUND BUILDING

MCN COMPLEX

HOUSING BUILDING

VCULVKE EN NENE

HWY 56

MARTHA BERRYHILL AVE

POLOKSE CIRCLE



ELDERLY ACTIVITIES
FRI JUNE 16, 9AM
ELDERLY NUTRITION BUILDING



5K RUN

SAT JUNE 17, 8 AM
MCN COMPLEX





MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

Official Publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

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June 2006

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Traditional Dolls by Lisa Cherino

Page A4

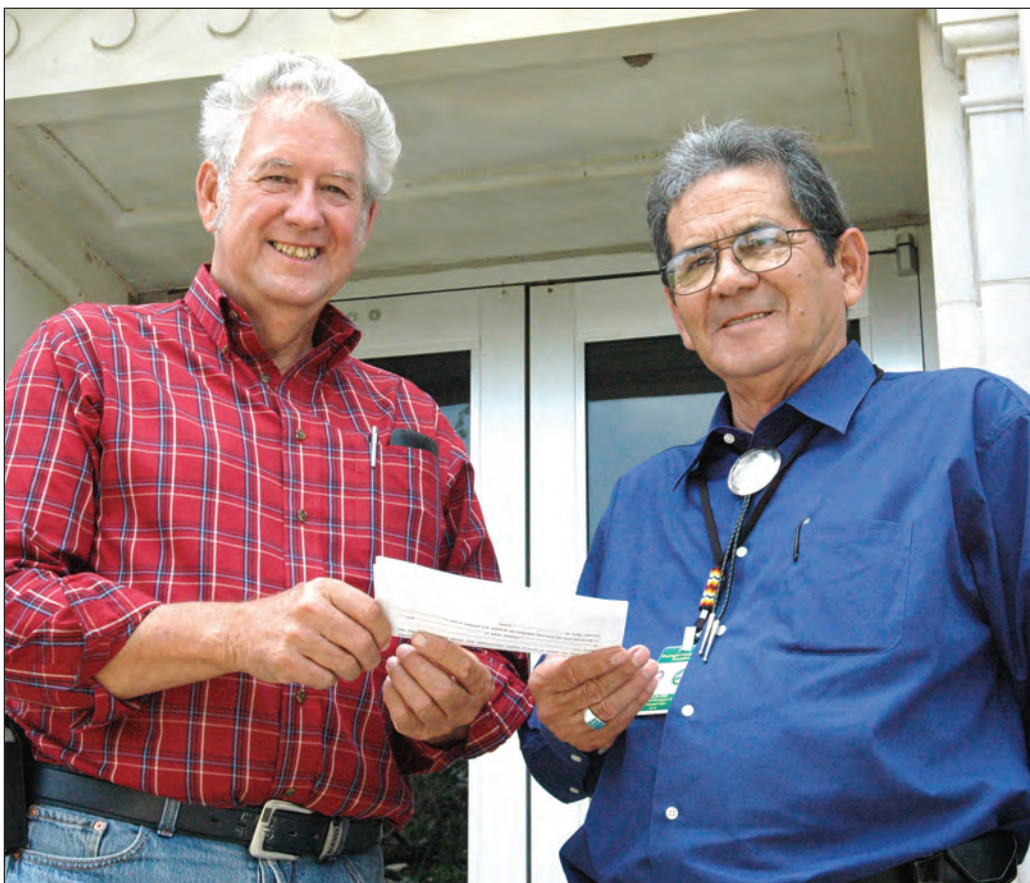
SCENE – SECTION C



All the information you need for a great time at the Muscogee Nation Festival being held in June. Don't miss this great event! See Section C for Details.

THIS MONTH'S REMINDER

A new page for the Muscogee Nation News will be introduced in the coming issues titled, "Notes to the Nation". This page is reserved for tribal and non-tribal citizens in order for them to express positive feedback, such as; recognition, thank you, etc. This gives everyone an opportunity to recognize a specific person or entity that have went above and beyond the call of duty. For more information or submissions contact: Starla Bush (918)732-7645 or e-mail article in Word to sbush@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.



Chief A.D. Ellis accepts the deed to the Okemah Hospital on the steps of the court house.

Photo by Jason Salsman

Okemah Hospital, right where it belongs after 28 years

By Jason Salsman

Twenty eight years of frustration are over for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on June 6, Chief Ellis stood on the steps of the Okemah courthouse and received the warranty deed to the Okemah Hospital from the Okfuskee County Commissioners. This ceremony consummated recent efforts by Muscogee Nation Health Systems Acting CEO, Del Nutter to negotiate a "final settlement" for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This hand-off had been a long time coming for the tribe. The County Commissioners were originally given a Hill-

Now, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation can begin plans for upgrading the hospital that will benefit the entire rural area surrounding Okemah. We are glad this longstanding issue is settled.

Burton loan in the amount of \$150,318. The Creek Nation leased the Okemah Hospital in 1977, with the County Commissioner debt still in force with interest. The Department of Human Resources wanted one of two parties to satisfy the loan and for the next 28 years a catch-22 existed between the

County Commissioners and the tribe. But Chief Ellis decided the tribe would stand its ground and didn't believe the debt belonged to the Creek Nation. The Tribe proposed a plan to the DHS to pay off the original amount of \$150,318 without having to pay the interest amount of \$471,637. DHS accepted the offer and gave the tribe 90 days with extension to pay the original loan. The Tribe has paid the amount and now has the deed to the hospital. Chief Ellis explained the importance of the settlement. "Now, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation can begin plans for upgrading the hospital that will benefit the entire rural area surrounding Okemah. We are glad this longstanding issue is settled."

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT HOSTS "YOUTH LEADERSHIP CAMP"



By Josh Slane

The Community Development Department in combination with the Cultural Development Department put on a Youth Leadership Camp for Muscogee youth at the Tiger Mountain Ranch Resort. The youths were chosen from various communities on many criteria including, but not limited to, leadership

and academic skills. They performed a variety of activities including finger weaving, stick ball, and even had their own National Council Session in which several National Council representatives joined in.

The purpose of this camp was to teach the youths about their ancestry and to help them build leadership skills that they will take back to their communities

and will benefit the whole of the tribe. It also taught them about the tribe's government so that, should they choose to seek office one day, they should be well informed.

The camp was not, however, all work and no play. Other activities included a hay bale

See **Youth**
Continued On Page 4

MUSCOGEE PAGEANT CROWNS NEW ROYALTY FOR 2006

By Jason Salsman

Muscogee (Creek) women do many things. They give their people lineage, they are charged with keeping the customs and traditions of their tribe alive and they wear crowns as ambassadors to a nation.

definitely bright, with the Little Miss contestants taking the stage. Every young lady did so well, it was a shame that only one could win in each division. Division I Little Miss was awarded to SaRae Butler. The title of Little Miss Division II went to Angel Johnson. To round out



2006 Newly Crowned Miss, Senior Miss and JR Miss Muscogee.

Photo By Muscogee Communications Dept.

Before a gathered audience over the weekend at the Henryetta High School Auditorium, the 2006 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Royalty was crowned as new members in the Miss, Junior Miss, Little Miss and Senior Miss Divisions all put on their sashes and took their first walks with their new titles.

Friday night was the Junior Miss and Miss Muscogee portion of the pageant. Each contestant was judged on their traditional dress, ability to answer wide ranges of questions and their talent. In the end, it was Samantha Jackson who came out on top just ahead of Taylor Tiger to become the 2006 Junior Miss Muscogee. In the later contest, the judges had a tough decision on their hands, as all the young ladies were bright, talented and in tune with the ways and customs of the Creek people. But, there has to be a winner and Melanie Amber Frye rose above the competition to become the new Miss Muscogee for 2006.

On Saturday, it was evident that the future of our nation is

the Divisions, Division III the oldest Little Miss was awarded to Ashleigh Johnson. In the Senior Miss competition the audience got to see why Muscogee women are such a precious and valued facet of our culture. The ladies showed class, dignity and beauty in their quest to represent the tribe. This year's Senior Miss Muscogee was awarded to Mary Gooden. It was very evident from all contests that these women and young ladies are all winners and each will do a wonderful job representing the Creek Nation.

The events were emceed by Joyce Bear and Wilbur "Chebon" Gouge. There was also a slide presentation highlighting the reign of the 2005 royalty. It reminded the new winners of responsibilities and the busy schedule that the royalty must keep.

Many people came together to make this even a huge success. From the judges to the prizes, decorations, programs and food this year's Muscogee pageant was tribute to years past and look ahead to an even brighter future.



Jeff S. Fife, became the very first graduate of the College of the Muscogee Nation programs.

L-R: Sharon Mouse, Jeff S. Fife, Myra Starr.
See Education, Page A8 For Complete Story.

Photo By Ruth Bible

Office of the Principal Chief

To All Creek Citizens,

Welcome Home! I have passed my deadline for the monthly article so this is a very short message. Welcome home to our Annual Creek Festival and Rodeo. Please feel free to come by my office and visit or tour our beautiful capitol grounds. Many changes have been made since last year. Again welcome to all.

MVTO



Chief A. D. Ellis

“Children are like wet cement. Whatever falls on them makes an impression”



Chief A. D. Ellis and Congressman Ernest Istook, Jr. (R) 5th District-OK visit in Chiefs office prior to visiting the Koweta Indian Health Facility.

LEGAL NOTICES

May District Court Filings

Criminal Misdemeanors:

- CRM. 2006-13
- Owen: Robert, Jr.
- Ct. 1 Public Intoxication
- CRM.2006-14
- Fixico: Sherry
- Ct. 1 Public Intoxication

Criminal Felony:

- CRF.2006-16
- Grayson: Nolan
- Possession of Illegal Drugs w/intent to Distribute

- CRF.2006-17
- Curley: Micah
- Possession of Illegal Drugs
- CRF.2006-18
- Gourd: Jesse
- Receiving Stolen Property

- Civil:
- CV.2006-41
 - Saber Acceptance Co. v. Powell:
 - Peggy & Sunny
 - Foreign Judgment
 - CV.2006-42

Beneficial Oklahoma, Inc. v.

- Holata: James
- Foreign Judgment
- CV.2006-43
- Royal Finance v. McBee: Jessina
- Small Claims
- CV.2006-45
- MCN v. 2001 Ford Black Suv
- VIN# 1fmzu77e61uc32954 and \$3,070 Cash
- Seizure & Forfeiture

Family Domestic:

- FD.2006-07
- TCSE, Ex. Rel., Johnson: Ronnessa v. Whitlow: Mitchell, Jr.
- Child Support
- FD.2006-08
- TCSE, Ex. Rel., Massey: Shanaa
- Rayon v. Fox: Jason Bradlee
- Child Support

Protective Orders:

- PO.2006-13
- Jones: Roxanne v. Lawrence: Marcus
- PO.2006-14
- Fowler: Winicy v. Borgus: Mark

and Suits: Kelly

- PO.2006-15
- Lindsey: Becky v. Joshua: Sadina
- PO.2006-16
- Lindsey: Becky v. Osborne: Tonya
- PO.2006-17
- Hill: Millie v. Joshua: Sadina
- PO.2006-18
- Armstrong: Adreanne v. Bassham: Steven

Traffic

- TR.2006-159
- Young: Martin
- Disorderly Conduct
- TR.2006-160
- Burns: Gordon
- Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
- TR.2006-161
- Erwin: Raymond
- Possession of Illegal Drugs
- TR.2006-162
- Osburn: Randell
- DUS
- TR.2006-163
- Osburn: Randell
- No Insurance
- TR.2006-164
- Mann: Vickie
- DUS
- TR.2006-165
- Buckmaster: Wendell
- DUS
- TR.2006-166
- Buckmaster: Wendell
- Disorderly Conduct
- TR.2006-167
- Laughlin: Bobby
- Disorderly Conduct
- TR.2006-168
- Douglas: Mikel
- Disorderly Conduct
- TR.2006-169
- Washington: Daniel
- DUS
- TR.2006-170
- Washington: Daniel
- No Insurance
- TR.2006-171
- Washington: Daniel
- Expired Tag
- TR.2006-172
- Puckett: Lawrence
- No Insurance
- TR.2006-173
- Hand: Richard
- No Insurance
- TR.2006-174
- Walker: Carrie
- DUS
- TR.2006-175
- Arce: Jacinto
- Disorderly Conduct
- TR.2006-176
- Arce: Jacinto
- Disorderly Conduct
- TR.2006-177
- Mayton: Danny
- DUS
- TR.2006-178
- Angeles: Ocampo
- No Driver's License
- TR.2006-179
- Angeles: Ocampo
- No Insurance
- TR.2006-180
- Chambliss: Jason
- Poss. Of Alcohol on Tribal Land
- TR.2006-181
- Mcninch: Billy
- Poss. Of Illegal Drugs
- TR.2006-182
- Mcinch: Billy
- Poss. Of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia
- TR.2006-183
- Mcckle: Allen
- Turning without regard to safety
- TR.2006-184
- Hise: William, III
- DUS
- TR.2006-185
- Presley: Shawn
- Expired Tag
- TR.2006-186
- Presley: Shawn
- No Insurance
- TR.2006-187
- Graham: Bryon
- DUS
- TR.2006-188
- Graham: Bryon
- No Insurance
- TR.2006-189
- Graham: Bryon

Expired Tag

- TR.2006-190
- Richardson: Edward
- No Insurance
- TR.2006-191
- Richardson: Edward
- DUS
- TR.2006-192
- York: Regina
- DUS
- TR.2006-193
- York: Regina
- No Insurance
- TR.2006-194
- Winimer: Claude
- DUS
- TR.2006-195
- Moles: Josh
- Disorderly Conduct
- TR.2006-196
- Oyler: Steven
- DUS
- TR.2006-197
- Long: Dino
- Expired Tag
- TR.2006-198
- Fletcher: William
- Invalid Drivers License (Expired)

Divorce:

- None
- Marriage Licenses: None

EDDIE JACOBS
P.O. Box 2322
Oklahoma City, OK 73101
(405) 524-4215

March 25, 2006
CERTIFIED MAIL

Keith Harper, Esq.

Native American Rights Fund
1712 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036-2976

Dennis M. Gingold, Esq.
607 14th Street NW, Box #6
Washington, DC 20005

Re: Request for “Statement of Non-Party” for Eddie Jacobs, Individual Indian Money Beneficiary

Dear Mr. Harper and Mr. Gingold:

On March 21, 2006, I made a presentation to the Intertribal Monitoring Association (ITMA) Meeting on trust funds issues hosted by the Comanche Nation in Lawton, Oklahoma. Enclosed is a copy of my statement, so you may better understand my request.

Ross Swimmer, Special Trustee and Donna Erwin, Deputy Trustee, Office of Special Trustee, United States Department of Interior were present at the ITMA meeting. Patricia Gerard was assigned as my contact with the Special Trustee’s Office.

Mr. Swimmer and Ms. Erwin promised me at the ITMA meeting, the Office of Special Trustee, Department of Interior will conduct a reconciliation based on my father’s and my IIM and USGS documents on the condition you release me from possible legal representation in Cobell v. Norton.

This seems unnecessary since I am not a class member. I have already been recognized as a ‘non-party’ by the Department of Justice in ‘Defendants’ Opposition to Non-Party Eddie Jacobs’ Motion for Leave to File Under Seal Eddie Jacobs’ Individual Indian Money Account Documents, submitted to the court, February 24, 2005. (See enclosed documents).

However, Mr. Swimmer may not be aware of the above doc-

ument and will not perform reconciliation and payment of my accounts until you, the class plaintiffs attorney, state you are not my legal representative. Therefore, I request you please sign the enclosed statement so I can obtain my long-awaited reconciliation/accounting and payment.

If the Justice Department’s statement to the court that I am a ‘non-party’ sufficiently satisfies Mr. Swimmer that I am not a Cobell class member, I request Mr. Swimmer please confirm his decision in writing to all concerned to speed the process.

However, in keeping with Mr. Swimmer’s requirement and request for your statement, I request that you please execute the enclosed ‘Statement of Non-Party’ and return it to me as soon as possible. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,
Eddie Jacobs

CC:Ross Swimmer, Special Trustee, Office of Special Trustee, Department of Interior
Donna Erwin, Principal Deputy Trustee, Office of Special Trustee, Department of Interior
Patricia D. Gerard, Management Analyst, Office of Special Trustee, Office of External Affairs, Department of Interior
A.D. Ellis, Principal Chief, Muscogee Creek Nation
Chad Smith, Principal Chief, Cherokee Nation
Gregory E. Pyle, Chief, Choctaw Nation
Bill Anoatubby. Governor, Chickasaw Nation
Kelly Haney, Chief, Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
Jim Gray, Chief Osage Nation and Inter-Tribal Monitoring Association Chairman
Senator John McCain
Chairman, Chairman United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
Representative Richard Pombo, Chairman, House Resources Committee
Senator Tom Coburn, United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs
Representative Dan Boren, Oklahoma Member House Resources Committee

Attachments:

- (1) Copy of Eddie Jacobs’ Statement, March 21, 2006 presented to ITMA Meeting
- (2) Copy of ‘Defendants’ Opposition to Non-Party Eddie Jacobs’ Motion for Leave to File Under Seal Eddie Jacobs’ Individual Indian Money Account Documents, dated February 24, 2005
- (3) Copy of Order, dated September 2, 2004

(4) Statement of Non-Party

Statement of Eddie Jacobs
IIM Beneficiary

Intertribal Monitoring Association on Indian Trust Funds
Hosted by the Comanche Nation
March 21-22, 2006
9:00 a.m. ñ 4:00 p.m.

My name is Eddie Jacobs. I am a citizen of the Muscogee Creek Nation, Five Civilized Tribes of Oklahoma, located in Okmulgee, Oklahoma. I am an Individual Indian Money (IIM) account trust beneficiary, and resident of Oklahoma City where I am employed in a full time position. In order to attend this meeting, it was necessary to take time off. I am chairman of the Oklahoma Indian Mineral Owners Association (OIMOA), and am the named founder and former chairman of Oklahoma Indian Land and Mineral Associated Nations (OILMAN), and a member of the Royalty Policy Committee. With all these titles, one might believe I am a man of means, but that is far from the truth.

I have struggled for many years attempting to obtain an accounting, audit, or reconciliation for my deceased father’s and my IIM accounts. My struggle began in 1981 when my father died and continues today. I gathered documents dating back to 1912, which substantiate my fatheris and my claim. These documents have traveled a long journey. When I attended an Indian Minerals Steering Committee (IMSC) meeting in Albuquerque, an IMSC official requested my documents. Minerals Management Service (MMS) transferred my documents to her and she transferred the packet to the IMSC Chairman, a United States Solicitor. The Solicitor transferred them to the Justice Department, who later turned them over to Cobell Plaintiffs attorneys. The documents were also sent to the Office of Trust Fund Management (OTFM) and I even presented them at a Senate Hearing in Washington, D.C. To date, my claim based on the supporting documents has not been satisfied in spite of the fact all these entities had my documents long before Cobell was filed.

The American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 specifies the responsibility of the Secretary to

See **Legal**
Continued On Page B4

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ELOUSE PEPION COBELL, et al.,
Plaintiffs,
v.
GALE A. NORTON, Secretary of the Interior,
et al.,
Defendants.

Case No. 1:96CV01285
(Judge Lamberth)

DEFENDANTS' OPPOSITION TO NON-PARTY EDDIE JACOBS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE UNDER SEAL EDDIE JACOBS' INDIVIDUAL INDIAN MONEY ACCOUNT DOCUMENTS

Defendants respectfully oppose Eddie Jacobs' Motion for Leave to File Under Seal Eddie Jacobs' Individual Indian Money Account Documents ("Motion"), filed February 11, 2005.¹ On September 2, 2003, the Court denied Mr. Jacobs' request for amicus status. See Order, Sep. 2, 2004 [sic 2003], Dkt. No. 2666. Accordingly, Mr. Jacobs has no standing to file his Motion and the Court should deny it.

Dated: February 24, 2005

Respectfully submitted,
ROBERT D. McCALLUM, JR.
Associate Attorney General
PETER D. KEISLER
Assistant Attorney General
STUART E. SCHIFFER
Deputy Assistant Attorney General

John J. Smithwick

¹ Mr. Jacobs did not meet and confer with counsel for Defendants before filing his Motion.

- 1 -

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that, on February 24, 2005 the foregoing Defendants' Opposition to Non-Party Eddie Jacobs' Motion for Leave to File Under Seal Eddie Jacobs' Individual Indian Money Account Documents was served by Electronic Case Filing, and on the following who is not registered for Electronic Case Filing, by facsimile:

Earl Old Person (Pro se)
Blackfoot Tribe
P.O. Box 850
Browning, MT 59417
Fax (406) 338-7530

By Pre-Paid First Class U.S. Mail Upon:

Mr. Eddie Jacobs
P.O. Box 2322
Oklahoma City, OK 73101

K.P. Kingston
Kevin P. Kingston

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ELOUSE PEPION COBELL, et al.,
Plaintiffs,
v.
GALE A. NORTON, Secretary of the Interior, et al.,
Defendants.

Civil Action Number 96-1285 (RCL)

ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on the Motion for Leave to File Amicus Curiae Pro Se [Eddie Jacobs] [2127]. Upon consideration of the opposition, the reply, and the record of this case, it is hereby

ORDERED that the Motion for Leave to File Amicus Curiae Pro Se [Eddie Jacobs] is **DENIED**.

SO ORDERED.

Signed by Royce C. Lamberth, United States District Judge, on September 2, 2004.

ECF DOCUMENT

I hereby attest and certify that this is a printed copy of a document which was electronically filed with the United States District Court for the District of Columbia.
Date Filed: 9-2-04
NANCY MAYER WERTZINGTON, CLERK
By: *Michael Stanley* 9-2-04

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ELOUSE PEPION COBELL, et al.,
Plaintiffs,
v.
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NANCY MAYER WERTZINGTON, CLERK
By: *Michael Stanley* 9-2-04

The Muscogee Nation News is the official publication of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Its purpose is to meet any possible need of the tribe and its citizens through the dissemination of information. Reprint permission is granted with credit to *The Muscogee Nation News*, unless other copyrights are shown. Editorial statements appearing in *The Muscogee Nation News*, guest columns, and readers’ letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of *The Muscogee Nation News*, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the third Friday of the previous month. *The Muscogee Nation News* reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate *The Muscogee Nation News* in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens’ households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS,
CALL (918) 732-7637
or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

OKMULGEE - THE FOLLOWING CONSIST OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE MARCH 25, 2006, REGULAR SESSION

MARCH 25, REGULAR SESSION

ABSENT WAS: BO JOHNSON, OKMULGEE;

SPEAKER GEORGE TIGER, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 06-017, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TR 05-085, “GRIEVANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURE” OF THE HOUSING DIVISION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION Sponsor: Larry Bible

• APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 06-020, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING A CREEK TRIBAL CITIZEN RANKING PREFERENCE FOR HOUSING PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE HOUSING DIVISION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION - Sponsor: Larry Bible; Co-Sponsor: Jeff Fife

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0), TR 06-021

A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING THE MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM POLICY AS ADOPTED BY TR 05-128 - Sponsor: Larry Bible;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0), TR 06-022

A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO (1) ACCEPT A DEED FOR AN UNDIVIDED INTEREST IN THREE TRACTS OF LAND IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA; (2) AUTHORIZE THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO ACQUIRE THE FULL FEE INTEREST OR THE FULL FEE INTEREST IN A PART THEREOF IN THE THREE TRACTS OF LAND; (3) IF THE LANDS CANNOT BE PURCHASED OR PARTITIONED AUTHORIZE THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SELL THE UNDIVIDED INTERESTS IN THE THREE TRACTS OF LAND WITH THE PROCEEDS TO BE PLACED IN THE NATION’S TREASURY - Sponsor: Thomas Yahola; Co-Sponsor: James Jennings;

• APPROVED (24-0-0), TR 06-024 A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A LEASE TO 81 RIVERSIDE, INC. TO ALLOW 81 RIVERSIDE, INC. TO OPERATE THE FULL MOON CAF... AT THE CREEK NATION CASINO - Sponsor: Ron Cleghorn; Co-Sponsor: Bill Fife;

• APPROVED (24-0-0), TR 06-026 A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE HICKORY GROUND TRIBAL TOWN’S OPPOSITION TO THE POARCH BAND OF INDIAN CONSTRUCTION OF A CASINO ON THE HISTORIC HICKORY GROUND TRIBAL TOWN SITE LOCATED SOUTH OF WETUMPKA, ALABAMA IN ELMORE COUNTY, ALABAMA Sponsor: Roger Barnett;

• APPROVED (24-0-0), TR 06-027 A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHO-

RIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A DETENTION SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH SAC AND FOX NATION FOR JUVENILE DETENTION SERVICES - Sponsor: Paula Willits;

• APPROVED (24-0-0), TR 06-029 A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE QUILT GUILD OF EUFAULA, OKLAHOMA USE OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION - Sponsor: Anthony Notaro;

• APPROVED (24-0-0), TR 06-031 A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXERCISE JURISDICTION AND CONTROL OVER THE HOLDENVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY CASINO Sponsor: Thomas Yahola;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0), TR 06-032

A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH MARCELLA GILES AND WYNEMA CAPPS FOR THE NATION’S POSSIBLE LEASE AND/OR PURCHASE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THEIR RESTRICTED PROPERTY - Sponsor: Sam Alexander;

• APPROVED (24-0-0), TR 06-034 A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEMS BOARD IN THE MAKING APPLICATION FOR THE INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES (IHS) SMALL AMBULATORY PROGRAM (SAP) GRANT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF REPLACEMENT FACILITY OF THE EUFAULA INDIAN HEALTH CENTER - Sponsor: Tom Pickering;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0), NCA 06-004 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING NCA 05-295 AND TO AMEND MCNCA TITLE 18, §2-104, F., ENTITLED “Vocational training-Tribal Grants” and §2-105,G., ENTITLED “Vocational training-Incentive Grants” AND AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE ADULT VOCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM AND TO REPEAL NCA 05-295 - Sponsor: Roger Barnett (\$398,400.00);

• APPROVED (24-0-0), NCA 06-026

A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE REMAINING UNDIVIDED INTERESTS IN THREE TRACTS OF LAND LOCATED IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA AND FOR INCIDENTAL COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE ACCEPTANCE OF TITLE AND OWNERSHIP OF THE LANDS - Sponsor: Thomas Yahola; Co-Sponsor: James Jennings (\$30,000.00);

• APPROVED (24-0-0), NCA 06-029 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)

NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE PURCHASE OF ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS FOR CREEK CITIZENS WHO ARE DIABETIC - Sponsor: Keeper Johnson (\$648,689.40);

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0), NCA 06-031 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REINTEGRATION DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN Sponsor: Tom

From the desk of the Speaker:

Hensci!

The regular session of the Oklahoma Legislature has ended. A special session is being

called by the Governor to address the state’s budget. During the regular session of the legislature a number of proposed legislation regarding the tobacco issues were introduced. However, the bills were killed at the committee levels. The tobacco issues between Tribal and state governments have

become a heavy topic of discussion especially with the upcoming political season in the state. The Governor is receiving a



Speaker George Tiger

Pickering (\$21,195.00);

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0), NCA 06-032 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF 10% FOR THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING - Sponsor: Sam Alexander;

• APPROVED (24-0-0), NCA 06-033 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION LIGHTHORSE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - Sponsor: Jeff Fife

tremendous amount of pressure from not only constituents but state wide retail organizations on this matter. During the recent Sovereignty Symposium held in Oklahoma City, some members of the Legislature acknowledged they were not educated about the issue at hand but are willing to learn. The point being, if proposed legislation in this matter went to the legislature for consideration and voted upon by that body of government and passed, it would have been an uneducated decision.

A goal of this National Council is to invite and welcome members of the state legislature

NEWS IN INDIAN COUNTRY:

Methamphetamine in Indian Country

By Rita Williams, National Council Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer

Reprint from portions of the testimony of William Ragsdale, before the Committee on Indian Affairs, United States Senate on the Problem of Methamphetamine use in Indian Country: During the Testimony of William Ragsdale, Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) at the Department of the Interior he stated. “ I have the privilege of meeting with tribal leaders from all across the country. Different tribes have a variety of concerns that I hear about on a daily basis, However, one issue that is virtually the same for the vast majority of tribes is that methamphetamine is destroying lives in Indian country. Tribal leaders are using terms like “out of control” and “epidemic” when describing to me their tribe’s experience with meth.” Some leaders are suggesting that on their reservations, a whole generation of young people may soon be lost to this one drug. The social effects of meth use go beyond destroying the body and mind of the user. Addicted parents are neglecting to care for their own children and meth is fueling homicides, aggravated assaults, rape, child abuse, and other violent crimes.”

The BIA does not take drug abuse in Indian Country lightly. As methamphetamine use within Indian country has become more

pervasive, The BIA’s Office of Law Enforcement Services (OLES) has taken the initiative to help combat it. For example, one highly publicized investigation originated on the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone Tribes’ Wind River reservation in Wyoming. While I cannot publicly divulge details of that case which are law enforcement sensitive, I will make mention of the case as reported in the public press. According to the Casper Star-Tribune, the case involved a drug cartel that developed a business plan to make methamphetamine to Indian reservations in northern states, to provide free samples to local tribal members, get them addicted, and then create a positive cash flow for the cartel; one of the reservations targeted was Wind River. In response to increased drug activity on the reservation, the BIA OLES Police Department, which serves the Wind River community, developed the Wyoming Division of Criminal Investigation, and the Fremont County Sheriff’s office. The operation resulted in numerous arrests.

In a more recent case, partially arising from Chickasaw tribal lands in Oklahoma, 108 suspects have been indicted for dealing in methamphetamine in southern Oklahoma and northern Texas. According to the Native American Times, “Operation 700 Ranch Round Up” involved an alleged major methamphetamine trafficking ring. The ring

involved a Chicago based gang.

The investigation resulted in the indictment of 108 defendants and seizures of 49 weapons, \$161,000 cash, and 15 pounds of methamphetamine. The case was jointly investigated by BIA OLES, Chickasaw Nation Lighthorse Police, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and state/local enforcement agencies

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MAKING DECISIONS ABOUT YOUR LAND:

By Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer Muscogee (Creek) National Council

When small-undivided interests in a piece of property are co-owned by many people, management and use of the property becomes more difficult. Income from the property, per owner, is often small in amount. Landowners find it difficult to use and control their own land. There are many problems: many owners in the same parcel; internal family disputes over use of the land; hard to contact co-owners and owning an interest in common does not give you the right to take your share. In order to do this you must partition the land, which requires consent

FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ACTIVITY CENTER - Sponsor: Sam Alexander;

• APPROVED AS AMENDED (19-5-0), NCA 06-037 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 04-208 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MOSS PUBLIC SCHOOL FOR A MULTI PURPOSE FACILITY) Sponsor: Thomas Yahola;

• APPROVED (23-0-0),

See **Session**
Continued On Page B6

governments is much more than price gaps or tax percentages, it is about Sovereignty and acknowledging those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for tribal governments to protect it.

By authorization from the National Council to the Principal Chief to negotiate in behalf of the Creek Nation, a proposal was submitted to the Governor’s office for review and consideration. The Chief at his discretion will decide when to present to the Council a proposed compact for action.

The Tribal Summits continues to gain momentum as the next meeting is scheduled for June 26th at the Sac & Fox Nation in Stroud. Alabama-Quasarrte, Caddo Nation, Muscogee Creek Nation and Sac & Fox Nation will serve as co-hosts of the Summit.

Until next time, MVTO!

in both Oklahoma and Texas.

NCAI: The National Congress of American Indians President Joe Garcia announced that a “Call for Action” and request for a White House partnership to combat the ever increasing problem of methamphetamine use and drug trafficking in Indian communities.

See **Meth**
Continued On Page B6

from all owners; getting a home site requires approval of more than 50% of the ownership; this makes it difficult to use your land for purposes important to you.

All the following areas are impacted; land data - getting all the records that give you a good idea of what you own, the location of what you own, who the other co-owners are, and the value of your land interest; probate and estate planning - who will get your land when you die?; leasing - getting the required number of signatures from landowners when you want to lease your land or lease someone else’s land; acquisition - trying to buy additional land interests so

See **Decisions**
Continued On Page B6

Muscogee (Creek) National Council Women’s Caucus



Left to Right: Tulsa District Representative Cherrah Quiett, Okfuskee District Lena Wind, Tulsa District Paula Willits, and Tukvptvce District Representative Shirlene Ade.

Photo By Rita Williams

By Rita Williams, National Council Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer

The Muscogee (Creek) National Council Women’s Caucus is possibly the first formation of native women legislatures. The first meeting was held in

April, with Speaker Tiger, Shirlene Ade, Sylvanna Caldwell, Cherrah Quiett, Paula Willits, and Johnnie Green. Discussion centered on training for council members, high cost of childcare for tribal citizens, cultural awareness and ideas and thoughts for increasing the efficiency of the National Council.

Fry Bread Clan Puppets Available

Lisa Cherino grew up in Haskell and is a Muscogee (Creek) citizen and is of the Bear clan. She received her bachelor's degree and master's degree in social work, and she worked for several years helping Indian people in family therapy and counseling. It was during this time that she noticed a need among the Indian people.

The need was that there were no counseling tools or methods specifically designed for the Indian people. So, taking her own initiative she began to design Indian specific tools and methods. The first method she developed involved painting Indian pictures and designs on hand-held rocks.

Emboldened by her success with such techniques she turned to puppets and dolls that wear traditional Indian clothing, some of which is from the Muscogee tribe while other outfits come from various New Mexico tribes.

Today she writes stories for Indian children and tours to various schools and cultural fairs where she performs with both puppets and her guitar.

Her first line of puppets, the Fry Bread Clan Puppets are available for purchase, and several copies have been picked up by the Muscogee tribe for use in various programs. She also has created Indian dressed Barbie dolls, greeting cards, and art drawings.

If you would like to purchase these dolls, or some of her other products Lisa can be contacted via email at lisahopalong@comcast.net or you can catch her at her booth at the Creek Nation Festival.



MNBE WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER

OKMULGEE – Michael Hughes, Ph.D., PE (Muscogee Creek) is the newest member of the Muscogee Nation Business

Enterprise Board of Directors. Dr. Hughes is the Director of the Center for Local Government Technology at Oklahoma State University. He is a Registered Professional Engineer in the States of Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Dr. Hughes joins Second Chief and Chairman of the Board Alfred Berryhill and John Freeman on the three member board of Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise. Everyone at MNBE welcomes Dr. Hughes to the Board of Directors.

MNBE BOARD APPROVES RESOLUTION TO CONSIDER MENTOR/PROTÉGÉ AGREEMENT WITH MACTEC

OKMULGEE – MNBE

Board of Directors passed a resolution at the May 23rd board meeting to authorize MNBE management to perform a due diligence assessment and conduct negotiations with MACTEC, INC. (“MACTEC”), in furtherance of a United States Small Business Administration (“SBA”) Mentor-Protégé program agreement.

A Mentor-Protégé agreement with MACTEC would provide assistance to MNBE in the SBA 8(a) Program development of its Government construction business, including without limitation, technical and/or management assistance, financial assistance, subcontracts, bonding, and/or assistance in performing prime contracts with the Government; and such assistance from MACTEC is for the purpose of enhancing the capabilities of MNBE and to improve MNBE's ability to successfully compete for contracts.

MACTEC, Inc. is headquartered in Atlanta, GA with 100 U.S. offices and 3,000 employees. MACTEC provides services to over 7,000 customers worldwide. They have received

numerous awards for their quality of work.

“Establishing a Mentor-Protégé agreement with MACTEC would be a great opportunity for MNBE to learn from one of the top firms in the country,” said Michael Nalley, Director of MNBE. They can help us enhance all areas of our operations.”

MNBE SIGNS AWARDED CONTRACT FOR ROADWAY AND BRIDGE REPAIRS FOR CHEROKEE NATION ROAD PROGRAM

OKMULGEE – MNBE Construction Services was recently awarded a contract with Cherokee Nation for Roadway and Bridge Improvements on the Saline Creek Bridge on Bull Hollow Road in Delaware County. The amount of the contract is \$597,000.

MNBE BOARD APPROVES TEAMING AGREEMENT WITH SOLUTION BOXES, INC.

OKMULGEE – MNBE Board of Directors approved a resolution at the May 23rd board meeting for MNBE to sign a Teaming Agreement with Solution Boxes, Inc. located in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Solution Boxes is one of the industry leaders in real-time digital video recording. “Solution Boxes makes a great product and we are looking forward to our business relationship,” said Michael Nalley, Director of MNBE. This agreement enhances the business opportunities for our Technology Division, managed by BJ Waggner and for Solution Boxes.”

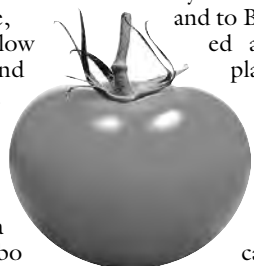
Hanna Indian Community Sells Fresh Produce

The Hanna Indian Community is selling fresh vegetables from their garden.

They have cabbage, zucchini squash, yellow crooked squash, and tomatoes on sale. Around the first of August they will have the famous Hanna watermelons as well as some banana cantaloupes and jumbo cantaloupes. All the vegetables are watered from the Hanna Indian Community's well.

Community wants to give special thanks to Vestor and Foy Layman for their hard work and to Berdine's who donated a large number of plants to the community center for their garden.

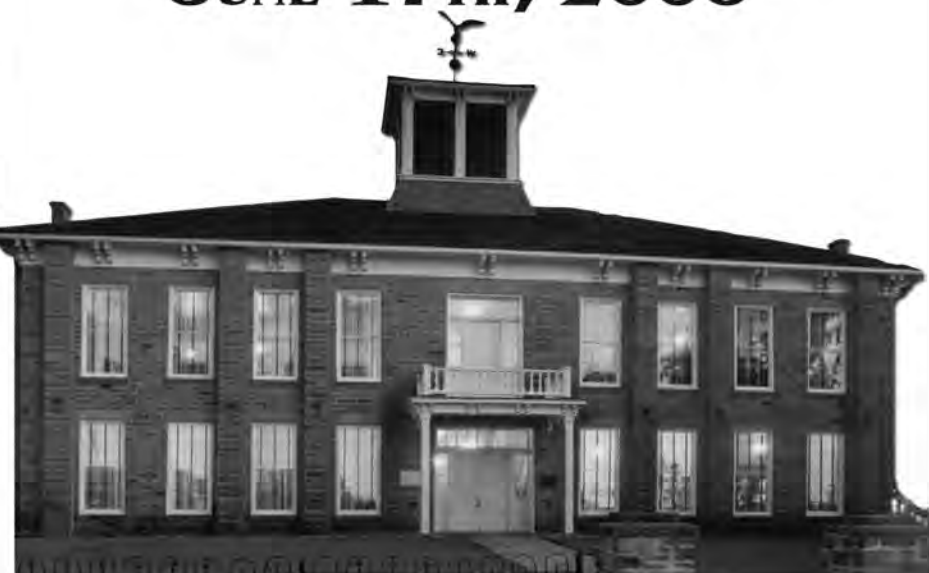
To find out where the produce is available to be purchased please call the Hanna Indian Community Center at 918-657-2641, Susie Harjo at 918-657-2269, or Donna Martin at 918-732-7962.



Muscogee Nation Festival June 15-18th!

CREEK COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM


JUNE 17TH, 2006




INDIAN ARTS FESTIVAL

JURIED ART CONTEST: POTTERY, PAINTINGS, CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 918.756.2324



PARTIALLY FUNDED BY



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

Casino Promotions

THE \$250,000 AMERICAN DREAM

Last year Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa changed one man's life forever, and this year we're here to do it again. Join us for the \$250,000 American Dream when one lucky person will win a brand new home in south Tulsa, a 2006 Hummer H3, and \$10,000 in cash! Register daily, because every Tuesday two winners will be awarded \$200 every hour from 6 pm to 9 pm and at 10 pm one person will win \$400 and a key that could open The American Dream home. On July 25, 14 additional keys will be awarded, and one person's key will open the door to The American Dream! (Register daily for Tuesday key/cash drawings from 6 pm - 10 pm; through July 25)

MEN'S NIGHT - TAKE IT TO THE LAKE

Guys, Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa is making your dreams come true all summer long with our newest Men's Night promotion, "Take it to the Lake". Swipe your card on Wednesday nights starting at 6 pm for half

hour cash drawings beginning at 7 pm. At 10 pm two guys will take home \$500 and a key that could start a 2006 Sea-Doo GTI on June 28. On August 2 the grand prize is a 2006 Tahoe Sport Boat! (Wednesdays through August 2, 6 pm - 10 pm) Don't forget, we're also giving away five additional certificates on June 28 for another chance at winning the Sea Doo!

LADIES NIGHT - LADIES, IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU

Ladies, how does a \$5,000 shopping spree, a trip to a glamorous spa, and a stay in a luxury hotel sound? Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa is giving away three luxurious trips to Miami, LA, and New York City through July! Just swipe your card at Guest Services each Monday for half-hour cash drawings beginning at 7 pm, and at 10 pm two ladies will win \$500 and a certificate to return for each month's grand prize drawing. (Mondays through July 31, 6 pm - 10 pm) Don't forget, we're also giving away five additional certificates on June 26 for another chance at the awesome LA getaway!

SENIORS WAKE UP AND WIN

Seniors, rise and shine at Creek Nation Casino Mondays and Tuesdays in June. From 7 am to 11 am, the first 500 seniors will receive \$5 match play on any Nova machine and all senior guests will enjoy complimentary coffee and donuts. What better way to start the day than with Creek Nation Casino's Wake Up and Win promotion?

MID SUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Having trouble sleeping? Or are you a night owl? Head down to Creek Nation Casino for our newest late night promotion! Swipe in at Guest Services starting at 11 pm every Sunday through Wednesday for \$150 drawings from 12 am - 3 am and a final drawing at 4 am for \$400! (Sunday - Wednesday Through July 31, 11 pm - 4 am)

FATHER'S DAY

Creek Nation Casino - Tulsa is honoring all fathers on Sunday, June 18. The first 500 fathers who visit Guest Services this Father's Day will receive a free gift!

POKER PROMOTIONS: THE BIG BOUNTY POKER TOURNAMENT

Play in The Big Bounty, our newest No Limit Hold'em Tournament every Thursday and Sunday at 7 pm and receive an extra \$20 for every player you eliminate! Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$115.

DAILY RIVER SHOWDOWN

Pull up a seat in Oklahoma's most upscale Poker Room for our Daily River Showdown tournaments starting at 9 am. Registration begins at 8:30 am

See **Promotions**
Continued On Page 5

Control *Continued From Page 1*

obstacle course and swimming. And of course, the tribe couldn't let the students get away empty handed so MNBE, working with their business partners Solution Boxes Inc. and Premiere Steel, arranged to give each child in attendance a new 18 speed bicycle. The bikes were presented Thursday by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, National Council representatives; Roger Barnett, Robert Jones, Cherrah Quiet, Jeff Fife, and Eddie LaGrone; MNBE Representatives Michael Nally and Woody Anderson, and Solution Boxes President Marshall Eudy.



Community Development and Cultural Preservation teach students how to finger weave during camp class.

MCN Diabetes Program is adding a 4th day to their Summer Prevention Camps

OKEMAH- The MCN Diabetes Program has added a 4th day to their diabetes prevention day camps. This fourth day will include a soccer clinic provided by the Oklahoma Soccer Association and an afternoon for the parents and family members to come and learn about preventing diabetes in their family. The four days of camp will



Okemah Diabetes camp participates in golf activities



Participants gather for Diabetes camp group photo in Okmulgee

include games, activities, field trips, good food, education, and the last day is a trip to Big Splash in Tulsa. Call the different clinic diabetes programs to register. The registration for each camp will end ten days before the camp begins. The following is a listing of the dif-



Eufaula Diabetes camp participants enjoyed bowling as an activity

ferent camps and contact numbers:



Big Splash was a big hit for Okmulgee camp participants



Sapulpa participants enjoy skating as a fun activity

Okemah Youth Camp – July 17th ñ 20th Call for registration (800)219-9458 ext. 456; O k m u l g e e Youth Camp – July 24th - 27th call for registration (918)756-9911 ext. 255; Eufaula Youth Camp – July 31st – Aug. 3rd Call for registration (918)689-2540 ext. 254; Sapulpa Youth Camp – Aug. 7th – 10th call for registration (918)224-9310 ext. 242

Holdenville Creek Community and Chamber of Commerce Health Fair is a big success

By Bob Melton
with the Holdenville Paper

HOLDENVILLE - The Holdenville Creek Community recently invited the Holdenville Chamber of Commerce to join them in promoting the many health related services that are available in Holdenville and the surrounding area.

The May 19 event at the Holdenville Creek Nation Community Center was free to the public, and among the participants were Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Health Representatives, Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Services, Indian Health Service, Health Care Innovations from Sapulpa, Boyce Manor Nursing Home, Heritage Village Nursing Home and Skills

Unit Natural Health Solutions, Aromatherapy and more, Wes Watkins Technology Center, Mvskokvlke P.R.I.D.E. (Preventing and Reducing Indian Diabetes Everyday), Jack Booth and Associates, Independent Insurance Agency, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Behavioral Health & Substance Abuse Services, Bikers Against Child Abuse (BACA), Caring Connection Home Nursing Care of Wewoka, Seminole Nation Family Services, Health Back Home Health, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Children and Family Services Administration and Holdenville General Hospital, Vcolvke Emetrvloketv Gathering of Elders offered a wide variety of hand-made jewelry and other crafts.

Creek Nation Community Health Representative DeLois Roulston and Chamber of Commerce Director Jamie Caudill, who worked together organizing the event, and were extremely pleased with the large crowd that attended.

They are looking forward to making this an annual event, and are extremely grateful for everyone who participated.

The unique gathering featured many facets of the health care field, including natural health, mental health, and modern medicine.

The many booths featured demonstrations and were prepared to answer visitors many questions.

Harjo completes workshop for certification for breastfeeding education

OKMULGEE - Cassandra Harjo, a staff member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation WIC Program, recently completed a three day workshop on clinical breastfeeding assistance in Ada, Oklahoma. The conference was sponsored by the Chickasaw Nation Food and Nutrition Services and Lactation Consultant Services.

In addition to participating in the workshop which addressed the normal course of lactation, she completed an assessment and problem solving practicum, and an examination addressing usual circumstances and common challenges with breastfeeding. She was awarded certification as a breastfeeding educator. Certification is an added credential that recognizes increased clinical competence in the field of breastfeeding assistance.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation currently has eight Certified Breastfeeding Educators Candace Vardell, Misty Rains, Patty Proctor, Amy Sinor, Chasidy Booker, Jimmie Ray Williams, Michelle Hurt and Cassandra Harjo. Today, most mothers breastfeed. Employed mothers, mothers at home, mothers of premature or ill infants, and mothers in a variety of special situations choose breastfeeding because of its numerous benefits.

Scientific investigations have recently identified significant benefits of breastfeeding which include increased intelligence, protection against childhood infections, diabetes, liver disease, certain types of cancers, allergies, immune system disorders, and

sudden infant death syndrome. Mothers who breastfeed have a reduced incidence of breast cancer and osteoporosis.

Mothers often explain that they initiate breastfeeding because of the benefits for their baby, but they continue breastfeeding because they enjoy a special closeness with their breastfed babies.

As breastfeeding becomes more popular, mothers look to health care providers for assistance. Traditional mother-to-daughter teaching and assistance is less available since there is a generation of grandmothers who primarily bottle-fed their babies. Increased geographic mobility among extended families further decreases assistance available to new mothers.

The conference was developed and presented by Debi Leslie Bocar, RN, PhD., Dr. Bocar who is a certified lactation consultant, noted that families who would benefit most from breastfeeding, breastfeed least often. She shared strategies to encourage mothers to breastfeed and assist them in a variety of special family circumstances.

“Practical assistance from knowledgeable health care providers is critical to get breastfeeding off to a good start. Experts must also be available for telephone assistance, home health care, and out-patient consultations to assist mothers overcome common challenges during the first few weeks,” emphasized Dr. Bocar. Certified Breastfeeding Educators are qualified to assist families to meet their breastfeeding goals.

Vocational Rehabilitation services available

OKEMAH-The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Program provides services to American Indians with physical or mental disabilities that lead to employment. Usually it takes up to 60 days to determine eligibility. Therefore, it is important for those individuals who are seeking training or higher education to come in

early. If determined eligible, services such as tuition, fees, books, meal and mileage allowance may be provided. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program is not limited to training only. For more information contact the program at (918)623-1197 or 1-888-367-2332.

Emergency Medical Assistance Program

OKMULGEE - The Emergency Medical Assistance (EMA) Program is a Tribal Program that provides assistance to Creek Citizens in obtaining prescribed medications or prescribed medical equipment necessary to sustain health and well being when no other resource is available. This program is designed to assist the Creek Citizens and is not intended to cover the total cost of prescriptions and related expenses.

Eligibility requirements are as follows: Applicants must provide proof of Citizenship by furnishing a copy of their Tribal Enrollment Card. Any minor under the age of one shall have an enrolled parent and be enrollment eligible; Applicant must be on file as a patient or established a patient file with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation

Health System; Applicant must present the original prescription and a statement from the Tribal or Indian Health Service Health Facility that the prescription or a reasonable alternative prescription is unavailable at those facilities; Applicant is to make an application and have prior approval through the Emergency Medical Assistance Program on prescriptions that are obtained outside the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System; The applicant must furnish documentation, which verifies all other available resources (Medicaid, Medicare, Private Insurance, etc.) have been exhausted.

Benefit amount is as follows: A grant of \$1,000 per year (365 days YTD) for health maintenance medications and medical equipment. (Oxygen, concentrators, nebulizers, walkers,

hearing aid, etc.); A grant of \$2,500 per year (365 YTD) for life sustaining medications only (cancer, dialysis, heart related, etc.); A grant up to \$4,000 for eligible applicants, (one time only) for prosthesis (artificial limbs).

All requests may be presented to one of the following locations nearest you: Eufaula Health Clinic at 800 Forest Avenue, Eufaula, Ok 74432 or call (918)689-2547; Okemah Health Clinic at 309 North 14th Street, Okemah, Ok 74859 or call (918)623-1424; Okmulgee Health Clinic at 1313 East 20th Street, Okmulgee, Ok 74447 or call (918)758-2717; Sapulpa Health Clinic at 1125 East Cleveland, Sapulpa, Ok 74066 or call (918)224-9310.

The MCN Diabetes Program and the Oklahoma State Health Department partnered for another successful year of the Move It! Program

OKMULGEE-The MCN Move It! Program is a school based prevention program funded by the MCN National Council. The MCN Diabetes Program and the Oklahoma State Health Department partnered for another successful year of the Move It! program in 10 different elementary schools throughout the MCN area. This program started with four schools, 250 students, three years ago and has now grown to 10 schools and 1200 students participating.

The MCN Move It! Program targets K-6th grade students of schools with a high percentage of American Indian students. The Diabetes Program Exercise staff works with the school students, staff, and administration over a three year period in the areas of physical activity (PE, recess, and after school exercise), diabetes prevention education, nutrition, staff wellness, and school health policy.

The program uses incentives to encourage the students and staff to exercise and turn in logs and coupons showing exercise times. Training and equipment is provided each year to the PE teacher for making changes in the school PE program. Sustainability plans are in place during the second and third years of the program. Program evaluation is done through physical fitness testing, BMI, and parent and teacher program questionnaires. Each year 2-4 new schools will be added to the program as



Ryal Move It Program fitness testing.



Hanna Students participating in their Move It! P.E. Day



Ryal Students at their first year award ceremony

schools finish the three year program.

This is the last year for the McIntosh Co. /Hughes Co. schools (Stidham, Dustin, Ryal, and Hanna). These schools have

been in the program for three years and are developing policies that will impact the health of the students and the environment at each school. These “Move It Policies” have been introduced at each school through their School Health Advisory Council. Each school will be given recognition as a “Move It” School’ if the policy criteria are met. Each school will also be given \$1000 per year for

Physical Education equipment and incentives for the exercise for prizes program, if their recognition criteria are met each year for as long as the funding is available. This funding will be available the year after the third year of the Move It! Program has ended. The following is the minimum criteria for the recognition as a “Move It! School”:

Move It Policies:

- Vending Machines - Access and content
- Physical Education times - Minimum of 90 minutes per week
- School Lunches ñ working with the lunch menu
- Guidelines establish for food brought to school by the students
- Diabetes prevention in-service for all school and cafeteria staff
- Quality Physical Education
- Fitness Testing performed two times per year ñ Practiced throughout the year
- Physical Education teacher training each year.

Oklahoma City National Diabetes Conference Welcomes Community Members and Tribal Leaders

OKLAHOMA CITY - The upcoming national conference iReducing Health Disparities in American Indians and Alaska Natives by “Preventing Diabetes throughout the Life Cycle”, targets community participants as well as health care workers. The conference will take place at the Cox Business Services Convention Center in Oklahoma City August 21-24.

The leaders of Muscogee (Creek) Nation made a clear statement of the importance they place on diabetes prevention by approving funding to sponsor the conference at the “White Buffalo” level, the highest level of sponsorship. The National Council approved additional funding for community members and tribal leaders to attend.

The purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for sharing and exchanging information about on-going pre-diabetes and diabetes prevention efforts in American Indians. It will focus on community empowerment and involvement in diabetes prevention throughout the lifecycle (infancy, youth, adult and elder.)

The MCN Diabetes Program staff will present the work being done with Creek youth through the school programs, “Move It and Prevention Diabetes” and

the Jump Rope Program, “Hop to Stop Diabetes”. The role of the MCN tribe in making these programs successful and will be included in the presentations.

If you are interested in

attending this conference please contact Rhonda Crandell at (918)756-3334 ext. 237 or Gloria Moore, (918) 756-3334 ext. 245. Early registration ends June 30.



IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

LARRY L. OLIVER
PLAINTIFF,
v.
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
NATIONAL COUNCIL,

DEFENDANT

AMENDED PETITION FOR DECLARATORY JUDGMENT AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF

COMES NOW the Plaintiff, Larry L. Oliver and recuses from this matter since he is the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, (“Plaintiff”), and for his cause of action against the Defendant, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council, alleges and states:

I. PARTIES AND JURISDICTION

1. Plaintiff was duly appointed a Justice of the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, on the 30th day of August, 1999. His term of office expired on the 30th day of August 2005. The Constitution mandates each Supreme Court Justice shall serve a term of six years.

2. Defendant is the duly elected Muscogee (Creek) National Council (“Defendant or “National Council”), pursuant to Article VI , §2 of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The legislative power and authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (“Nation”) is vested in the National Council.

Pursuant to Rules of the Supreme Court, the Office of the Chief Justice is served on a one-year rotating basis. Pursuant to Article VII §2 of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the six-year term of each Supreme Court Justice is to commence on the first day of July. This discrepancy as to Plaintiffs term of office will be addressed later in his Petition.

3. This Court is vested with jurisdiction to decide Constitutional issues, pursuant to Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Title 17 § 1-101 et seq. and the Nationis common law?

II. FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION

4. On the afternoon of April 24, 2006, the Plaintiff, whose private offices are located in Tulsa, was contacted by the Supreme Court Clerk and advised the Business and Governmental Operations Committee requested the Plaintiff meet with them at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal complex later that afternoon. Plaintiff attended the meeting. The Committee was composed of six members, including the chairman. The Chairman of the Committee called the Plaintiff’s name for consideration for reappointment by the National Council. The Chairman asked if anyone had any questions. No questions were asked of Plaintiff or the Chairman. A vote was taken on Plaintiffs reappointment to the Supreme Court. The vote was 3 to 2 not to approve Plaintiff’s re-nomination. This was done without asking the Plaintiff any questions. The entire process took no more

than five minutes.

5. On April 25, 2006, at approximately 4:20 PM, the Supreme Court Clerk called the Plaintiff and told him that the Speaker of the National Council, George Tiger, requested Plaintiff attend a planning meeting for the National Council, George Tiger, requested Plaintiff attend a planning meeting for the National Council at 6:30 PM. The Plaintiff was not informed of the purpose of the meeting.

Litsey v. Cox, Okla. Trib. 307, No. SC-91-06 (Original) (Muscogee (Creek) 1991) (holding that Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court has original jurisdiction to consider a challenge to the qualifications of a candidate for National Council after the Election Board denied relief); See also In re District Judge, 2 Okla. Trib. 54 (Muscogee (Creek) 1990) (holding that the Constitution vests the Supreme Court with power to assume original jurisdiction in a case where constitutionality and meaning of National Council ordinance is involved, and where tribal Principal Chief maintains that Tribe lacks a seated district court judge); A.D. Ellis v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, SC 05-03/SC05-05__Okla. Trib.__(Sup. Ct. 2006) (holding the MCN Supreme Court had original jurisdiction to hear a dispute between the Principal Chief and the National Council).

Pursuant to the Rules of Procedures of the National Council, four standing committees were created – one of which is the Business and Governmental Operations Committee. Rules of Procedures of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council adopted Pursuant to NCR 03-002, P. 25

6. The Plaintiff arrived a few minutes early only to find that he was not on the planning meeting agenda. He prepared to leave when Anthony Notaro, a member of the National Council, came out of the Planning Meeting and asked Plaintiff to return to the Planning Meeting. The Speaker called for the meeting to be held in Executive Session. Some, but not all, members of the National Council attended this Planning Meeting.

7. The Plaintiff returned to the room where the Planning Meeting Executive Session was being conducted. All but four members of the National Council were present. The Speaker asked the Plaintiff to tell them something about himself. Plaintiff began to explain to those present something of his background. The Speaker cut the Plaintiff short and asked the Council if any of those members present had any questions.

8. Roger Barnett, a National Council member, asked if, during the trial of the case between Chief Ellis and the National Council (A. D. Ellis v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council case No. SC-05-03) (“Ellis v. National Council”), the Plaintiff made the statement: “That the Council had done an injustice to the Tribe”, or words to that effect. The Plaintiff vehemently denied making any such statement during that trial. This accusation by Barnett was patently untrue.

9. Sam Alexander, another National Council member, who had filed a lawsuit two or three years previously and in which the

Supreme Court had written an unfavorable Opinion against Alexander, asked if the Plaintiff had participated in that decision and if not, why. The Plaintiff answered by saying that a mutual friend had approached Plaintiff and tried to influence his decision. For this reason Plaintiff recused himself and chose not participate in the trial or the decision of that case.

10. National Council member Notaro, who had remained by the door, stated he also heard the Plaintiff say, “That the Council had done an injustice to the Tribe.” The Plaintiff, again, vehemently denied making the statement or any similar statement. This allegation by Notaro was an intentional attempt to question the objectivity and integrity of Plaintiff. Notarois allegation was patently untrue.

11. There was an oral exchange between Councilman Notaro and Plaintiff asked Mr. Notaro if the Council was not able to get along with the Chief and vice versa, would this impose a stand still in the tribal government. “If that happened”, the Plaintiff asked Councilman Notaro, “Wouldn’t that create an injustice?”

12. Mr. Notaro then argumentatively asked the Plaintiff why the Supreme Court ordered the Ellis v. National Council case to be arbitrated and why the Supreme Court had not accepted the settlement reached between the parties in that case. Plaintiff explained that the Opinion was not his Opinion, but that of a unanimous Court of all the Supreme Court Justices and that each member of the Supreme Court had an equal say.

13. Further, Plaintiff stated that the full Court thought the proposed settlement of the parties did not go far enough. The full court thought there should be an express distinction of the separation of powers within the tribal government.

14. There were no more questions of the Plaintiff. Speaker Tiger said he would let Plaintiff know what their decision was before Saturday, which was when the Regular Quarterly General Council Meeting was to be held. This questioning of Plaintiff lasted no more than ten to fifteen minutes at most.

15. On the morning of April 26, 2006, the Speaker advised the Supreme Court Clerk that the Planning Committee members present at the Planning Meeting occurring the preceding evening agreed to adopt the vote of the Business and Governmental Operations Committee of April 24, 2006. The Speaker said it would not be necessary for the Plaintiff to appear on Saturday, April 29, 2006, at the Regular Quarterly General Council Meeting. Therefore, the Plaintiff did not attend the General Council Meeting held on April 29, 2006.

16. On May 4, 2006, the Plaintiff called the Speaker to let him know he would like to talk to him about the situation but would like the Speaker to read a copy of the trial transcript in Ellis v. National Council. The Speaker said he appreciated that and would call the Plaintiff after he had read the transcript. The Plaintiff has yet to receive a call from the Speaker.

17. The Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation requires the National Council to approve or disapprove nominees to be considered for the Supreme Court. Article VII §§ 1 and 2 of the Constitution of the

Muscogee (Creek) Nation provides for a third or judicial branch of government of the Nation:

“Section 1. The judicial power of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be vested in one Supreme Court limited to matters of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s jurisdiction and in such inferior courts as the National Council may from time to time ordain.

Section 2. The Supreme Court shall be composed of six (6) members appointed by the Principal Chief, subject to majority approval by the (6) years beginning July 1 (emphasis added).”

18. Although the Nationis Constitution requires the National Council to approve all members of the Supreme Court, it does not define the procedure to be used by the National Council in nominating or re-nominating a Supreme Court Justice to the bench of the Supreme Court.

19. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Title 26 §3-202, provides in relevant part, “In the event a nomination is not approved within sixty days by the National Council, the nomination shall be deemed to be rejected – (emphasis added).” Further, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Title 26 §3-201, requires the Principal Chief to submit a nomination to the National Council for its consideration. In the event the National Council.

20. Last year, the Attorney General opined that a constitutional requirement mandating the approval or disapproval by the National Council required action of the entire National Council in deciding whether to approve or disapprove the appointment of a position by the Principal Chief. AG Opinion March 16, 2005 (attached hereto as Exhibit A) In this opinion, the Attorney General concluded:

“Article VI, §2 of the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation defines “National council” as “one (1) House with one (1) Representative from each district and one (1) additional representative for each 1,500 citizens.” Currently, the National Council consists of 26 members. In accordance with the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, “National Council” means the entire body of all 26 Representatives. The term “National Council” is generic. It refers to an entire group or class. To find otherwise would, in effect, give the term “National Council” a narrower and more restricted meaning than that given to it in the Constitution (emphasis added).” AG Opinion March 16, 2005

The Attorney General held that the Constitution trumps the Rules and Procedures of the National Council. He concluded that such Rules and Procedures of the National Council “...such recommendations would merely be advisory and not binding upon the National Council as a whole (emphasis added).” Id. Thus, the actions by the National Council at its meeting on Wednesday, April 25, 2006, are invalid whereby it refused to act as the entire body of the National Council ultimately failing to reappoint the Plaintiff to the Supreme Court.

Provided the submittal of Plaintiffs name by the Principal Chief to the National Council was timely and within ninety (90) days of the end of the Plaintiffs term of office. See Plaintiffs Third Cause of Action.

21. According to the AGis Opinion, the lawful responsibility to accept or reject a nomination lies solely with the National Council as a whole. If the National Council desires to inquire of the nominee, or to pursue any qualifications of the nominee, or Plaintiff in this instance, and to determine or establish compliance with or alleged violations of the Code of Conduct and Canons of Judicial Ethics for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Judges and Employees as provided in Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Title 26§ 4-101 es seq, the Attorney General has concluded that this activity must be performed by the National Council as a whole, in public, and not as a committee making recommendations to the full Council. Plaintiff was present when a vote was taken by the Business and Governmental Operations Committee, and by a three to two vote, denied Plaintiffs reappointment to the bench of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court. Plaintiff was told it was unnecessary for him to attend the regular Quarterly Meeting of the National Council, held on April 29, 2006.

22. Plaintiff has been

informed by members of the Supreme Court Clerks staff that on Saturday, April 29, 2006, the full National Council did not conduct any hearing, or hearings, or inquire about the past services of Plaintiff for the previous six years. Plaintiff was told, and verily believes, the National Council by its actions at its Planning Meeting on April 25, 2006, adopting the three to two vote not to approve Plaintiffs re-appointment of the Business and Government Operations Committee voted on April 24, 2006. On the following day, April 25, 2006, at the Planning Meeting Executive Session (or secret meeting) for the National Council Quarterly Meeting scheduled for Saturday, April 29, 2006, Plaintiff started to explain his background and qualifications for the position on the Supreme Court, as requested by the Speaker, he was cut short by the Speaker. Plaintiff and was asked only three questions by National Council members, Barnett, Alexander and Nataro. The full National Council took no action of their own in considering any information as to the reappointment of the Plaintiff but simply “rubberstamped” the three to two vote of the Business and Government Operation Committee. Plaintiff reminds this Court that on April 24, 2006, he was asked no questions about his experience, his past service as a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court or any questions involving the Code of Conduct and Canons of Judicial Ethics for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Judges and Employees. Plaintiff has a long and distinguished career as a successful trial attorney of some forty-two years. (see Exhibit B) The hearing before the Business and Governmental Operations Committee took less than five minutes from start to finish. At no time were Plaintiff’s credentials and experience ever considered by the full National Council.

23. The Plaintiff prays the Court to declare the action by the National Council on April 25, 2006, adopting the vote of the Business and Governmental Operations Committee occurring on April 24, 2006, is a violation of the Constitution and, therefore, void. Alternatively, Plaintiff asks the Court to issue a writ of prohibition preventing the National Council from relying upon its vote of April 25, 2006, declining to reappoint Plaintiff to the Supreme Court for a second term and for such further relief the Court deems equitable and just.

II. SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION

24. The Plaintiff readopts and re-alleges his allegations in Paragraphs 1 through 23 hereof, and further states:

25. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Title 26, §5-201, requires that all Supreme Court Justices shall be compensated at the rate of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per month.

6 – Attached as Exhibit B is Plaintiffs Curriculum Vitae and personal recommendations from attorneys and judges from around the state.

7 – The Chief Justice shall be compensated at the rate of Twelve Hundred Dollars (\$1,200.00) per month during his or her term, plus out-of-state travel. Muscogee Creek Nation Code Title 26 §5-201(A)

26. Plaintiff, as a potential compensated employee of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, stands to lose his statutory compensation as a member of the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as a result of the unlawful actions of the Defendant, National Council, in that they violated his rights expressly provided in the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at Article VII §2.

27. The actions of the Defendant in failing to comply with the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as to the retention or non-retention of the Plaintiff as a Supreme Court Justice violates his right to due process and equal protection guaranteed him under the Indian Civil Rights Act, 25 USC, §1301, et seq.; and at Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Title 27 §1-103(A)&(B).

28. The Plaintiff prays the Court declare the action of the National Council adopting the vote of the Business and Governmental Operations Committee occurring on April 24, 2006, as a violation of the Constitution and, therefore, void. Alternatively, Plaintiff asks the Court to issue a writ of prohibition preventing the National Council from representing or claiming its vote of April 25, 2006, valid and for such further relief the Court

deems equitable and just.

III. PLAINTIFFS MOTION AND BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF A TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER AND FOR PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION

As set forth above, Plaintiff submits that the National Council has wholly ignored their Constitutional mandate to fully and thoroughly consider Principal Chief Ellisi re-nomination of Plaintiff to the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. To further complicate matters, Plaintiff was appointed by Principal Chief Beaver on August 30, 1999. The Constitution expressly provides that Plaintiffs term shall exist for a period of six years or though August 29, 2005. The Constitution further provides a conflicting provision which states a Supreme Court appointee shall commence his term on July 1. Notwithstanding the ambiguity and confusion set forth above, Plaintiff submits that, at a minimum, The National Council must comply with their Constitutional mandate and directive for it, and not a committee, to thoroughly and adequately address his reappointment. The issues are further complicated since we have no definitive answer as to the exact term of office of the Plaintiff. Thus, it is in the Tribes best interest, as well as that of Plaintiff, that the Court enjoin any actions of the Defendant seeking to assert that Plaintiff is no longer a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court.

This Court has not hesitated to enter temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions in appropriate situations. See, Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. Indian Country U.S. A. Inc., 1 Okla. Trib 267, 1989 WL 547439 (Muscogee (Cr.) D.Ct. 1989). The need for such injunctive relief is clearly appropriate in cases in which there is threatened improper interference with the proper functioning of tribal government or tribal agencies. For example, in Cox v. Moore, 1 Okla. Trib. 263, 1989 WL 547438 (Muscogee (Creek) 1989), the Supreme Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation affirmed a temporary restraining order granted by the trial Judge. In Cox, the Principal Chief was attempting to remove a previously appointed and approved member of the Hospital and Clinics Board.

The National Council, in failing to comply with the mandate of the Constitution, acts without lawful authority. Further, Plaintiff submits that the Constitution gives nominees to the highest court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation a right to have their nominations considered fully by the entire National Council. The Court should so find. An Injunction, including a Temporary Restraining Order, Preliminary Injunction and Permanent Injunction, should issue requiring the National Council to consider Plaintiffs nomination in accordance with the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

A plaintiff seeking a preliminary injunction and a temporary restraining order must show that:

(1) the movant will suffer irreparable harm unless; (2) there is a substantial likelihood the movant ultimately will prevail on the merits; (3) the threatened injury to the movant outweighs any harm the proposed injunction may cause the opposing party; and (4) the injunction would not be contrary to the public interest.”

American Civil Liberties Union v. Johnson, 194 F .3d 1149, (10th Cir. 1999). All of the elements set forth above are satisfied in this case.

WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff Larry L. Oliver, demands the following relief:

A. A declaratory judgment as described above;

B. A temporary restraining order, a preliminary and permanent injunction as described above;

C. In the alternative, a writ of prohibition;

D. All other relief as may be just and proper

Respectfully submitted,
s/ John G. Ghostbear
OBA#3335-MCNBA #204
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Tulsa, OK 74128
918/747-6351
FAX: 918/744-6654
ghostlaw@ghostlaw.net
Attorney for Plaintiff



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ALTERNATIVE HOUSING PROGRAM HELPING THOSE WITH THE GREATEST NEED

Our Elderly Creek Citizens, some of which are living in sub-standard conditions, are now benefiting from the Alternative Housing Program. The Alternative Housing program was created to improve on a problem affecting our elderly citizens who have the greatest need for decent, safe and sanitary housing.

In the past, many of our elderly citizens applied and were approved to have home repairs made through the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program. Repairs usually included a new roof, plumbing, winterization, and in some instances making the house handicap accessible. After an inspection of their homes, many elderly citizens were notified that due to the poor condition of the home, repairs would not be feasible. Previously Housing's only options to the homeowners were to apply for the Lease with Option to Purchase Program (Homeownership) or the Rental Program. Making payments on a home or renting is not an option for most people who are on fixed incomes, especially for those who have not made payments or rented in several years. In almost all cases, our elderly citizens do not want to leave their home place.

For this reason the Alternative Housing Program was created. The program offers Elderly Creek Citizens over the age of 62 and who have qualified for the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program a replacement home as a grant which means the cost of the house does not have to be repaid. The recipient will receive an alternate home in place of the home that was deemed unfeasible for repair.

David Proctor, manager of the Housing Division Construction Services, under which the Alternative Housing Program is implemented, said he feels very gratified by the program when he sees our Creek Elderly finally provided adequate housing. "Because of the full-blood preference requirement most of the recipients thus far are elderly full-bloods who desperately need better housing", said Proctor. Often the person just wants a new roof or maybe some storm windows even though the entire structure is in poor condition. When they get a completely new house in a relatively short time with no pay-

ments they are beyond thankful. "These are the citizens we urgently need to help", said Chief A.D. Ellis. "They are elderly, on fixed income, often



Delilah Charles is presented with the keys to her new home by David Proctor, manager of the Housing Division Construction Services. The new home is a result of the MCN Housing Division Alternative Housing Program. Looking on are McIntosh District Council members, Tom Pickering (left) and Anthony Notaro

handicapped, and still they don't ask for much. If the tribe can make their lives a little better that's what we should be about."



Pictured is one of the modular homes provided by the Alternative Housing Program. The homes are part of the program designed to help elderly Creek Citizens whose homes cannot be repaired through the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program.

RENTAL SITE RESIDENTS FEELING SAFER WITH NEW SECURITY SYSTEM

The security at all the Housing Division Rental Housing sites has long been a problem. To remedy this problem the Rental site in Okmulgee was recently equipped with a new high tech security monitor-

ing system. The system consists of four surveillance cameras, each mounted on a 30 foot utility pole and enclosed inside an all weather case. Continuously in operation around the clock, the cameras monitor virtually any

area of the rental site.

The Housing Division Safety Officer, who is overseeing the installation of the security system, said that this system is basically the same as the ones used in the casinos. These cameras have the capability to pan, tilt, or zoom in close. The best thing about these cameras is that surveillance can be transmitted to the Lighthorse Headquarters.

See **Security**
Continued On Page 8



Housing Division Safety officer keeps an eye on the Rental Housing site in Okmulgee on a monitor located at an remote site located in the Housing Building.

Long time housing employee retires

Okmulgee – On Friday, May 19, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Authority said good-bye to a long time employee, Jona Rade. Jona was employed with the Housing Authority for almost 17 years. "She has been a great employee," said Allan Kelley, Housing Authority employee. "She is very honest, hard work-



Jona Rade

See **Retires**
Continued On Page 8

Helping our Tribal Citizens Realize the Dream of Homeownership

Providing help through the Mortgage Assistance Program

Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the
MUSCOGEE(CREEK)NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

- Be a first time home buyer.
- Live within the state of Oklahoma.
- Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
- Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
- Preference given to Creek Citizens.

Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division/Authority is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

Behind the Scenes at the Pageant

By: Virginia Thomas, 2006 Pageant Chair

Sitting in the audience you would never know all that was going on behind the scenes at the Pageant. People were busy working the curtains, helping in the backstage area, sweating up in the light booth, preparing food for the contestants outside in the heat, greeting people at the doors, passing out the programs, helping in the dressing rooms, setting up cameras in room “A” for portraits of the girls and organizing the business of judging and tallying the scores. You also didn’t see the time and planning for: screening contestants, holding an orientation / practice date, the testing of all contestants, making out the agenda, designing the program, preparing the budget, preparing the judges packets, designing score sheets, ordering meals for the contestants, setting up planning sessions, and a hundred more areas to long to list.

What you did see was a group beautiful young woman of all ages and a group of regal female elders all who took the stage with poise and grace and who won the hearts of all to witness the event.

The 2006 Pageant Committee has been working on this year’s pageant for over ten months meeting on a monthly base and for the last month on a weekly base. This group of Creek Nation employees and former employees volunteered their time and talents in making the Creek Nation Scholarship Pageant the highlight of the festival. As the Chair of this years Committee, I have been honored to have worked with this group of people who have a motto “For the Pride on Our Nation” and believe in making our Nation’s Scholarship Pageant one that sets a standards for others to obtain.

We have set high standards for the contestants as well. All

contestants were required to take a test and understand what it means to represent their tribe as Royalty. When it came time for Wilbur Gouge to ask the Little Miss contestants their “on stage questions”, you could hear the audience snap their lips in disbelief when he knelt down on one knee to ask the first Little Miss and the smallest of them all, “What is the term of office for the Principal Chief?” She spoke with full convince, “He serves a four year term.” The audience as well as Wilbur beamed in pride which only got greater in intensity with each and every child as they correctly answered questions such as; “How many National Council Representatives are there?, How many counties are within the Creek Nation boundaries?, What is the name of the Second Chief?, Where is the Creek Nation Capital located?, How do you say ‘How are you in Creek’ and What does the “I” “T” stand for in the seal of the Muscogee Nation?

Moments like those made the time and efforts of all the volunteers well worth it. Their motto “For the Pride on Our Nation” was their goal and they had reached it. I would like to also thank Chief Ellis for his support as well as the Program Directors and Managers who allowed their staff to volunteer their time during the pageant.

Anderson, Creek Council House Food/Reception Jeri Brandon, JOM Judging criteria / testing material Carla Brown, Communications Program/Photography Anthony Byrd, Facilities Staging Alice Coe, Behavioral Health Miss coordinator Odette Freeman, Office of



Chief crowns the 2006 Jr. Miss Muscogee.

Second Chief Jr. Miss Coordinator Wilbur Gouge, NAHASDA Orientation Wade Hall, Creek Council House Food/Reception Deana Heard, Creek Council House Food/Reception Ted Isham, Creek Council House Food/Reception Koko Lowe, Language Revitalization Applications / Screening Jerri On-The-Hill, Higher Education Lead Tabulator Floyd Osbourn, Facilities Staging Marcus Proctor, Tobacco Prevention Stage Coordinator Cindy Russell, Employment & Training Flowers / Staging Cynthia Tainpeah, Tobacco Prevention Little Miss Coordinator Pearl Thomas, Community Member Senior Miss

Coordinator Mary Volturn, Creek Council House Food/Reception Joyce Williams, Creek Council House Food/Reception Communications Department, Video, Photography & PowerPoint

I would like to thank all of the volunteers who helped this year and gave up their lunch hours and working after hours to prepare for this event. Special thanks to Miss Jeri from JOM, Marcus Proctor from Tobacco Prevention and Anthony Byrd, Floyd Osborn and Sam Osborn from Facilities from all of the Pageant subcommittees. We could not have honestly pulled the Pageant off without you. To the staff from communications, you made us all look good. You guys are the best.

COLLEGE OF MUSCOGEE NATION FIRST GRADUATE

submitted by Sharon Mouss

OKMULGEE – On May 15, 2006, Jeff S. Fife, Beggs, became the very first graduate of the College of the Muscogee Nation programs. The college is located in Okmulgee and partners with the OSU system. Fife received an Associate in Applied Science degree in Police Science conferred at Oklahoma State University – Oklahoma City at the 2006 Commencement ceremony at the Cox Convention Center.

As he walked across the stage, the announcer recognized Fife as the first graduate of the College of the Muscogee Nation (CMN). His red CMN stole, bestowed by President Myra Alexander-Starr and the Board of Regents, distinguished him from other graduates. Dr. David J. Schmidly, System CEO and President of OSU, and Dr. Jerry D. Carroll, President, OSU-Oklahoma City, offered congratulations and encouraging remarks as Fife received his diploma.

Fife, who is serving his first term as National Council Representative (Okmulgee District), received the graduation stole in a special presentation at the Pre-agenda Meeting of the April 29 Muscogee (Creek) National Council Meeting at the Tribal Complex in Okmulgee.

The red satin stole, designed by Jimmie C. Fife Stewart, Creek artist, displays eight adjoining diamonds representing the eight districts in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries as well as an ancient sun circle to symbolize “the light of education for the sustenance of our tribe,” according to Dr. Alexander-Starr, the first president of the college.

“Today is an exciting day for our Nation and the futures of our youth. While this is a great personal honor, I see the future leaders of our Nation as gradu-

ates of the College of the Muscogee Nation”. The College of the Muscogee Nation is the most valuable investment that our Nation has made in many years for the rewards and benefits are infinite,” remarked Fife upon receiving the stole.

Dr. Alexander-Starr, who attended the graduation ceremony commented, “This is a tremendous milestone for our college and certainly one we want to commemorate.”

In reference to the Police Science program, Dr. Alexander-Starr added, “As a part of their academic work in this degree the Muscogee Nation tribal police, the Lighthouse officers in which Jeff served 13 years are receiving required specific study in Native American History, Native American Tribal Government, Native American Language, Federal Indian Law, Crisis Intervention, Tribal Court Systems, and Mvskoike Language Studies. All of these courses are taught through a special arrangement between the College of the Muscogee Nation in Okmulgee and OSU-Oklahoma City.”

Jeff Fife will continue his education this fall pursuing a Bachelorís degree in Police Science at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah. To add to his list of accomplishments, he will graduate on Thursday, July 13, from Green Country Technology Center with a Certificate of Completion from the Oklahoma Department of Career and Technology Education in Boot and Saddle.

As a National Council representative, Fife serves on the Tribal Affairs and the Fact Finding committees.

Jeff and his wife Thomasine have two sons, J. Scot and Aaron. He is the son of Bill and Mary Fife of Dustin. Bill Fife also serves on the National Council representing the Okfuskee District and served as Principal Chief from 1990-94.

MCN JOM Program announces Scholarship winners

Sixteen high school seniors have been awarded a \$500 scholarship by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM Program. These scholarships are awarded each spring for graduating seniors, who excel scholastically, are involved in their community, and are accepted into a college for the fall term. In addition, out of these sixteen scholarship awardees, Muscogee (Creek) Nation awards a \$300 scholarship to one male Creek student and one female Creek student.

This years winners and their school includes: Please see attachment.

Matthew L. Agree, Henryetta and Rachael Arrington, Union Schools received the Creek Nation \$300 scholarship award.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION 2006 Scholarship Winners

- 1. Matthew L Agree Henryetta Creek
- 2. Krista L Anderson Okemah Creek
- 3. Rachael Arrington Union

Creek	Cherokee
4. Desiree A. Booker Okmulgee Comanche	6. Cherie Cassaday Sapulpa Creek
5. Jamie Burcham Tulsa	7. Mindy Chancey

Retires

Continued From Page 7

ing, and caring.”

Jona plans on spending her retirement with family and friends. “Since my husband and I are now retired, we plan on spending more time traveling and being with our grandchil-

dren,” said Rade.

Jona and her husband Don have two daughters, Tami and Tanya. Tami currently is employed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Federal Roads program.

Security

Continued From Page 7

Meaning someone in a completely different location can monitor activity at the sites and if needed notify local authorities of any illegal activity. These cameras record at 20 frames per second and are watermarked and dated, making the recordings admissible in court. The system doesn’t come cheap but by deterring vandalism and break-ins this system should be cost effective

The new system has already proven itself reliable after being in operation only a few months. Site managers, Tammy Burwell and Linda Lowe, have already seen the effects of the system. Most of the recurring problems at the sites are minor in nature, such as; broken windows and doors, graffiti, disturbances, but

they have seen this activity drop to almost zero where the cameras were installed. Just knowing the security system is in operation makes us and our residents feel safer. So far the feedback has been all positive. It also gives us a means of documenting problems when they occur. We wish we would have had this system a long time ago.

The fact that the new security system will make the residents feel more secure knowing their homes are being monitored 24/7 is immeasurable and will without a doubt cut down on any type of illegal activity at the sites. The Okmulgee site is the first to receive the Security system but plans are to have this type of security at all the Rental sites.

Henryetta Creek	10. James R Livingston Broken Arr Cherokee
8. Heather D. Holmes Coweta Creek	11. Ellyott E Lucas Holdenville Choctaw
9. Jennifer Johnson Wagoner Cherokee	12. Christopher C Pack Wagoner Cherokee
13. Christopher M Rankin Porter C.B. Pott	14. Jon M Robertson Preston Cherokee
15. Darren A Rock Morris Creek	16. Kyle D Smith Porter Cherokee

MCN JOM Program Youth Leadership Conference

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM program is preparing for their annual Youth Leadership Conference to be held in Oklahoma City. Each JOM program is allowed to send two students on a first come first serve basis. This conference time is utilized to teach leadership skills, team building, meeting new friends, and having some summertime fun.

Sponsors plan a full venue with workshops, a keynote speaker, group time, and visiting places of interest.

The Youth Conference is a Joint-Tribe effort with the Choctaw and Chickasaw JOM programs and has been ongoing for several years.

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See Section C For Schedules
and Detailed Information

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Reach Housing Reporter Mallory Bible at: E-mail: mbible@muscogeenation-nsn.gov, Phone: 918-732-7639



Creek Musician
Jamie Coon



A salute to
Muscogee
Graduates



Local Creek
headed for
Indigenous
Games



Front row (left to right): Millie Colbert, Mary Frye, Minnie Proctor, Sylvia Baker and Norma Marshall. Back row (left to right): Anthony Ciocco, Mitch Jack, Cedric Sunray, Joseph Erb and Ashe Deere.

Preserving the language

By Gerald Wofford

The language of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is being well preserved. Programs like Johnson O'Malley attracts hundreds of school age children each year to learn the language through the challenge bowl contest. Public school institutions are also encouraging language preservation where just over 60 years ago learning of the language was discouraged. The Mvskoke Language Department of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is a big part of

the overall effort as well. On June 5, 6 and 7 a curriculum and teacher training took place in the conference room at the Human Development Building on the grounds of the Creek Nation Capitol in Okmulgee. The training focused on new and creative ways to teach youth about the language. Joseph Erb, was a part of the training. Erb created the claymation videos for Ryal Schools, Hanna Schools, Morris Schools and Dustin Schools. The most unique aspect of the claymation videos is that the script are in the Mvskoke lan-

guage. The Mvskoke Language Program Staff includes the following: Norma Marshall, Manager; Millie Colbert, Curriculum Coordinator; Mona (KoKo) Lowe, Program Secretary; Sylvia Fay Baker, Mvskoke Language Instructor; Ahse Deere, Mvskoke Language Instructor; Mary Frye, Mvskoke Language Instructor; Mitch Jack, Mvskoke Language Instructor; and Minnie Proctor, Mvskoke Language Instructor.

Cultural Activities

Kialegee Day
WETUMKA - Kialegee Tribal Town will be celebrating Kialegee Nettv (Kialegee Day) Celebration 2006 on June 22, 23 and 24. A youth night will be held on June 22. The activities will begin at 7 p.m. with motivational speakers Michael Thompson, 2000 OU National Champion Cornerback and Mary D. Givens, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Lighthouse Explorer. On June 23, a wild pole throw (stickball), traditional dinner and gospel singing will be held. Friday's activities will begin at 5:30 p.m. On Saturday, the activities will begin at 8 a.m. The activities include: 2K Fun Run & Walk; Children Fishing Derby (begins at 6 a.m.); Mushball game; Co-Ed Softball Tournament; Horseshoe Tournament; Turtle Races; Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament; Finger Printing Booth; Cultural Events; Food Bingo; Food Vendors and Lawnmower and other prize drawings. Mekko Bucktrof will present "The State of the Kialegee Nation" at noon. For more information or particular times, contact Marsey B. Harjo at (405) 452-5200, Henry Harjo at (405) 452-5501, Evelyn Bucktrof at (918) 452-3442, Teresa Johnson at (405) 452-5388 or Mark Foley (405) 452-5522.

19th Anniversary Celebration and Powwow
NORMAN - Thunderbird Casino will be hosting the 19th Annual Anniversary Celebration and Powwow on June 30, July 1 and 2. Gourd dancing begins at 6 p.m. on Friday and at 2 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. On Saturday and Sunday, gourd dancing will resume at 6 p.m. Contests will include: Golden Age, men and women; Adult, men and women; Teens, boys and girls (13 - 17 years); Combined Juniors, boys and girls (7 - 12 years); Tiny Tots; Women's Northern Fancy Shawl and Southern Buckskin; Men's Northern Traditional and Southern Straight; and Drum, northern and southern. There will also be a Stomp Dance Exhibition on Saturday and all dance grounds are invited. The head staff include: emcee, Sammy Tonkei White; head man dancer, Terry Tsotigh; head lady dancer, Tanya Moore; head gourd dancer, Ed Yellowfish; host gourd clan,

Comanche Little Ponies; head southern drum, T.B.A.; head northern drum, Buffalo Horse Singers; head drum judge, Randy Moore and arena director, Dennis Little Axe. For more information, contact the Powwow Coordinator at (405) 360-9270 ext. 283. The Thunderbird Casino is located at 15700 E. St. Hwy. 9 (17 miles east of Norman). **Children's Creek Cultural Classes**
GLENPOOL - The Summer Reading Program at the Tulsa Library American Indian Resource Center will be hosting a Children's Creek Cultural Class on July 7, 14, 21 and 28 from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the Glenpool Library. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation department will present storytelling, songs and activities about the Muscogee people. The event is for ages 5-12. The library is located at 730 E. 141st Street. **Children's Muscogee Creek Language Class**
GLENPOOL - The Summer Reading Program at the Tulsa Library American Indian Resource Center will be hosting a Children's Muscogee Creek Language Class on July 10, 11 and 12 from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the Glenpool Library. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Language Program will teach basic words of the Muscogee Language. This event is for ages 5-12. The library is located at 730 E. 141st Street.

54th Annual Tulsa Powwow
TULSA - Tulsa Indian Club Inc. and Tulsa Native Network (TNN) will host the 54th Annual Tulsa Powwow on July 21, 22 and 23 at the Tulsa Convention Center, Exhibit Hall C from 12 p.m. until midnight. There will be contests in all categories. The head staff includes: head man dancer, Randy Moore; head lady dancer, Margo Gray; head singer, Don Patterson; master of ceremonies, Sammy "Tone Kei" White; gourd clan, Lenape Gourd Clan; host northern drum, Redland Singers; color guard, Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard and arena director, Randy Frazier and Phil Gover. For sponsorship and vendor information, contact Tulsa Indian Club Inc. at (918) 671-2417 or send an e-mail to tici@tulsapowwow.org. For artist and arts and crafts information,

call Sammy Haynes at (918) 449-0344. For the latest information on all events visit www.tulsapowwow.org. **2006 Powwow of Champions**
TULSA - The Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa (IICOT) will be hosting the 29th Annual 2006 Powwow of Champions on August 11, 12 and 13 at the Tulsa State Fairgrounds, Expo Building. Admission for the event is \$5 per person. There are family passes are available at \$16 for four persons and \$20 for five persons. Children 5 years and under are free. The head staff includes: 2006 Honoree, Butch McIntosh; head singer, Francis Stumblingbear; head man dancer, A.J. Leadingfox; head lady dancer, Debra Mooney; head boy dancer, Mason Bighorse; head girl dancer, Marissa Wikel; host gourd dancer, Osage Gourd Clan; masters of ceremonies, Archie Mason and Neil Lawhead and arena directors, Zeke Ulrey and Karl Beaston. Contests include: Jr. Girls, buckskin, jingle, fancy shawl and cloth; Jr. Boys, traditional, grass, straight and fancy; Tiny Tots, girls and boys; Golden Age, men and women (55 & over); Sr. Women, cloth, fancy shawl, jingle & buckskin; Sr. Men, straight, traditional and grass; Harry Adams Memorial Straight Dance and Terry Adams Memorial Fancy Dance. For Vendor Contract or more information, call (918) 321-3460 or (918) 838-8276, e-mail, arts-n-crafts@iicot.org or visit their website at www.iicot.org.

Eufaula Powwow & Homecoming
EUFAULA - The Eufaula Indian Community will host a Powwow and Homecoming on September 1, 2 and 3 at the East Side Ballpark. The head staff include: master of ceremonies, Sammy White; head gourd dance singer, Moses Starr; host war dance drum, Yellowhammer; head man dancer, JR Jaquez; head lady dancer, Crystal White; head gourd dancer, Will Tonemah; arena directors, Garland Kent Jr. and Bill Takes Horse; Honor Guard, VFW Post #8798 & Ladies Auxiliary (Friday), Mvskoke Nation Honor Guard (Saturday) and Seminole Nation See **Activities**
Continued On Page B2

Native American History Series: Power of the Muscogee Bow

By Patrick E. Moore

The Muscogee hunter used the bow as his primary weapon to bring down big game until the introduction of the repeating rifle in the late 1800's. There were several reasons for the continued use of a bow. First, acquisition of a bow and arrows was not dependent upon the European trader. Second, the bow's rapid fire made it a superior weapon. Third, natural material for bow and arrow construction was readily available and fourth, Muscogee craftsmen had been producing the weapon for thousands of years. The Muscogee hunter/soldier lived and fed his family with the bow and arrow. Speed, dexterity and accuracy were important if he expected to bring home game. His accuracy was perfect at ranges under forty yards even though with the bow he was capable of throwing an arrow four to five times that range. Early English traders were extremely impressed by Muscogee archery. One explorer wrote in his journal during the 1600's that a Muscogee put one arrow 12 inches or better through an armored target.

When Columbus first attempted to land on a large Caribbean island in 1492, his first landing party was repelled by a shower of arrows from warriors of the resident Carib tribe. Columbus wrote in his journal that their arrows were made of hard wood, tipped with fish teeth and dipped in poison. When Cabeza de Vaca began to explore the Gulf Coast, traveling from Mexico north in the 1500's, ten of his soldiers wearing armor were transfixed by arrows in a skirmish local residents. He also reported the Indian bows had a range of 200 yards and their arrows could pierce an oak tree as thick as a man's thigh. De Soto during his invasion of the Muscogee lands during 1541 wrote as follows about Muscogee archers. "They never remain quiet, but are continually running, traversing from place to place, so that neither crossbow nor arquebuse can be aimed at them. Before my soldiers can make a single shot with either, the Muscogee will discharge three to four arrows; and he seldom misses his target. Where the Muscogee arrow meets with no armor, it pierces as deeply as the shaft from a crossbow. Their bows are very perfect; the arrows are made of certain canes, like reeds, very heavy, and so stiff that one of them when sharpened will pass through a target. Some are pointed with the bone of a fish, sharp like a chisel; others with some stone like a point

of a diamond, when they strike armor they will break at the place the parts are put together, those of cane split and enter my soldier's shirt of mail thereby doing severe injury."

De Soto's expedition, truly an invasion, suffered 760 injuries

The arrow shots were tremendous and sent with such force that the lance of one gentleman made of two pieces of ash was pierced by an arrow in the middle without being split and the arrow made a cross with the lance

from arrows and when they finally took one Muscogee archer prisoner, he demonstrated to his captors his power and accuracy with bow and arrow. Shooting from a distance of 150 yards his arrow passed completely through a coat of chain mail and lodged in the ground, when two coats were placed together at the same distance his arrow penetrated both coats, but did not pass completely though to the ground.

The Muscogee, originally terrified by the huge beasts Spanish soldiers rode, very quickly learned the horses of the Spanish were easier to hit and kill than the rider, so the Muscogee archer shot horses first then the rider as he struggled to walk in heavy armor. Spaniards wearing plate armor were shot very accurately any place that was unprotected, the eyes and throat were favorite Muscogee targets.

During a battle near present day Mobile, Alabama one of De Soto's men was hit with more than 20 arrows and another who dismounted to remove an arrow from his horse was shot through the neck and died instantly. In this battle alone 22 Spaniards were killed, 148 were wounded, seven horses were killed three having the arrow enter one shoulder and exit the other shoulder, in addition 29 horses were wounded and the rest of the company suffered a total of 688 arrow wounds. The journal contains the following passage, "The arrow shots were tremen-

dous and sent with such force that the lance of one gentleman made of two pieces of ash was pierced by an arrow in the middle without being split and the arrow made a cross with the lance."

The De Soto attack ended when a heavy rainstorm wet the Muscogee's bowstrings and they withdrew from the battlefield. Between 1539 and 1543 the Spaniards lost 250 men and 150 horses, but the Spanish toll on the southeastern Indians during this invasion was staggering. The Spanish invaders destroyed one entire town with a population of over 5,000 people, placed untold 1000's into slavery and under flags of truce captured and executed 100's of warriors and chiefs.

When Coronado crossed the southwest during 1540 one of his officers wrote in his journal that he had witnessed a Native American Bowman shoot a bull buffalo and the arrow penetrated both shoulders. The officer remarked that this feat would have been a difficult shot with his musket.

Horses provided far greater hunting mobility and the Native American horseman was an expert at hunting from horseback. He always mounted his horse from the right side, he always approached game from the right side with bow and arrows in his left hand. He shot from right to left while sometimes riding at a full gallop, many non frontier artists have depicted this scene incorrectly, while those who actually observed a hunt portray the shooting from horse back properly.

Frontier traders hunting with plains Indians wrote in their journals of witnessing bow shots made by Native American archers where the arrow would pass completely through a buffalo with the arrow sticking in the ground on the other side. On one occasion they wrote that one hunter shot completely through a buffalo cow and killed the calf running by her other side.

When the Muscogee converted to the black powder rifle, one frontiersman wrote that it was safer to stand before a Muscogee rifle at 80 yards than the same Muscogee at the same distance armed with a bow and quiver of arrows.

Introduction of the black powder rifle diminished the need for bow and arrow craftsman and by the time black powder rifles wore out and became scarce one half century later, there were not enough of these skilled bow makers alive to supply the demand.

Today there are too few artisans practicing bow making and soon this skill may be lost forever, all to the detriment of the First and subsequent Americans.

The following Tribal Registered voters are urged to contact the Creek Nation Election Board to update their address. Call 1-800-482-1979 or 918-732-7684, 7685 and 7631.			
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		Barton, Andrew R.	Benson, Billie D.
			Benson, Kyleen S.
			See Voters
			<i>Continued On Page B8</i>

Creek girl's desire to sing paying off

"When I was younger I'd listen to Elton John and Ronnie Milsap and sing along. I would have Jamie Coon concerts in my bedroom with sisters as the audience."

By Gerald Wofford

A few years ago near the town of Okemah, Indian kids would try to find entertaining ways to pass away the hot summer day and nights. Without the modern technological spoils of a satellite dish or an electronic gameboy, many of the native children would become very creative in their attempts to see the clock's hand wind away another day.

Little Jamie Coon was part of the area youth who were discovering fun options as well as discovering a little bit about themselves. Coon wasn't by herself, the Creek and Seminole home in which she grew up in was filled with four sisters and one broth-

er and often the past time would turn to music. "I've loved music as long as I can remember," says Coon. "When I was younger I'd listen to Elton John and Ronnie Milsap and sing along. I would have Jamie Coon concerts in my bedroom with my sisters as the audience."

The sibling performances would cause Coon to be bitten by the music bug and would put the desire in her heart to make a career of it. Because she liked the music of Elton John, whose style is pop and rock and Ronnie Milsap, who is purely country, showed that Jamie liked any kind of music if it just sounded good. The further influences of singers like Percy Sledge and the soulful tones of Motown were also motivational. So Jamie continued, and the singing of just about every good song coming from the radio helped the native

artist in training her voice and singing became more easy. The added inspiration from the 'King'-Elvis Presley whom Jamie calls her "hero" made her want to learn to play the guitar, and later the piano. While other Indian kids were playing softball and other sports, Jamie also began singing more. As she kept going and discovered how much music was a part of her life, she began to look at the overall parts of what went into making a great song. Things such as lyrics, the poetic timing, and that the overall feeling was there.

The grade school years changed to High School and when that was over, Jamie knew that music would always be a part of her life. Such a part that she wanted to see about making a career of it. The west coast seemed to be tugging at the Indian girl's heart and the bright lights of Los Angeles was certainly a hot spot of music creativity. A school that was in the area was just what Jamie was looking for. "I moved out here to attend Musicians Institute," explains Jamie who graduated from the program in 1999. After receiving quality training for her voice Jamie wondered if life after graduating would have any possibilities. She had decided that she liked the California scene and wanted to make this a place to call home. The native artist embraced the west, but would the west embrace her?

Jamie found out that the opportunities now facing her were just too good to pass up. The LA music scene took her in and for good reason-Jamie's voice has been described as "soulful and angelic" and soon she was meeting other musicians who were looking for the talent that Jamie had. Meetings with acoustic guitarist Rafael Barajas and keyboardist Byron Evans helped Jamie assemble a band. Other members like Jamie Bulloch, Tom Von Doom, and drummer/producer Pat Evans were just as important and the CD titled 'Everything So Far' was produced. For Jamie it was a labor of love and was extremely pleased with it. "Everything So Far" is exactly that," says Jamie. "Everything we've written and recorded up until now.

"Waiting" (The first track and single from the album) was the first song I wrote after I moved to LA. "Betrayed with a Kiss" was written by one of the

"All I have to say is thank God for producers. Pat and Tom made this album possible. The most important thing is to feel comfortable with who you're working with,"



Creek Seminole artist Jamie Coon

album's producers, Tom Von Doom. "Silent Words" was written by a gentleman named Jarrot Michaels. The other tunes I co-wrote with my guitar players, Rafael Barajas and Byron Evans. I think the mix of songwriters adds a cool variety to the album.

With Jamie's further training with the guitar and piano, and with a band that felt the same passion to music as she did, the live performances were a plus, but the production of a studio recording was a little different and Jamie discovered an advantage in making quality recordings that are not 'unplugged'. So "All I have to say is thank God for producers. Pat and Tom made this album possible. The most important thing is to feel comfortable with who you're working with," says Jamie.

The introduction of Jamie and her band to the California music scene has not gone unnoticed. With 'Everything So Far' taking off so well, Jamie has



been nominated for 'Best Female Artist' in the First Annual Southern California Music Awards. Music constantly expands and with Jamie she finds her music being added to films as well. Several of Jamie's songs are on the music soundtrack 'Gone But Not Forgotten' and 'Virtuality' and the band is also working sounds for the upcoming film 'Long Term Relationship'. A film that Jamie feels is in sync with the music. "Long Term Relationship" is a Romantic Comedy. One of my best friends Matthew Montgomery plays the lead character. It's been fun and I'm excited about this film. It's going to be released this summer. We're putting the finishing touches on the music as we speak," says Jamie. "The director, Rob, gave me a few basic ideas. We wrote two new songs for the movie and they are also using "Inside of Me" from the album. It's great! I love writing music for film. I hope we can do it more in the future." Jamie has recently learned that another of her songs called 'Breathe' was placed in an independent film entitled 'The American Standard' that will be shown at the Cannes Film Festival in France. In July, Jamie and the band will begin producing a new CD, a title has not yet been decided upon, but they will begin shooting a video for one of the songs called 'Waiting' that will be the first song on the CD.

Jamie admits that she tries to visit Oklahoma as much as possible and likes performing there. Recently she did a concert at the Grape Ranch in Okemah, which was a bit of a homecoming for her. The opportunities that Jamie has been given ever since she decided to move to the west coast has been a wise pay-off and looking back she is glad that she made the move. But even with the California influence, Jamie's music still has an Oklahoma feel to it, the songs of famous musical artists have been a big influence, but Jamie credits her family and friends for being a part of the big picture as well. "My parents are Oklahoma natives. My dad, Wendell, is Creek/Seminole and an amazing artist," says Jamie. "We're working on his website, it will be up very soon. My mom Sheila is Creek and a wonderful singer. I have one brother and four sisters. I also have a niece and two nephews. They all live in Okemah, and I miss them all."

All the information you need for a great time at the Muscogee Nation Festival. Don't miss this great event! See Section C for Details.



Jamie with guitarist Joe Reifer

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Activities *Continued From Page 1B*

Honor Color Guard (Sunday) and E.I.C. Drumkeeper, Dugan McIntosh.

Grand Entry will begin at 8 p.m. nightly. There will be contests nightly, arts & crafts and food concessions. Bring your lawn chairs. Admission is free.

For more information, contact George Tiger, EIC Powwow Chairman, at (918) 618-2990.

World Championship Fry Bread Cook-off

TULSA - The World Championship Fry Bread Cook-off will be held at the Tulsa Event Center.

The contests include: All Around Best Piece of Fry Bread; Fry Bread Diva Award; Largest Piece of Fry Bread and Best Booth decorations. The Fry Bread Eating contest and Fry Bread Throwing contest entry fee will be \$5 each.

For booth space, sponsorship and vendor information, contact Kathy Been at (918) 378-7165 or (918) 663-0870 or send an e-mail to tici@tulsapowwow.org.

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Creek citizens take a trip to Cherokee, North Carolina for Tribes Cultural Arts Celebration

By: Jackson Barnett
Senior Services Manager

A total of 11 people in two vans departed from Creek Nation about five o'clock in the morning, Thursday May 18. We were headed for Cherokee, North Carolina for the initial southeast Tribes Cultural Arts Celebration. The intent was to bring together the five major aboriginal tribes of the Southeast for two days of traditional dance, storytelling, authentic arts and crafts and living history.

Invited participants included members of these federally recognized tribes: Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma, Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, Seminole Nations of

Florida and Oklahoma. For more than ten thousand years, these people lived in the southeastern part of the United States, creating everything they needed out of the environment, combining beauty and function in clothing, weapons, musical instruments, shelter, medicine and foods.

This gathering was for the purpose of showcasing the talents of these tribal members.

I was asked by our Chief, A.D. Ellis if I might be interested in transporting some of our craftspeople to North Carolina for this special weekend. I agreed as I had never been to Cherokee and my intent was to provide transportation and be a tourist and enjoy myself on this trip with few responsibilities. As it turned out, the organizer for this trip was called back to Oklahoma

on an emergency and I ended up being responsible for the travelers halfway through the weekend and on the return to Okmulgee.

We traveled the whole day intent on getting there without stopping overnight. We made the necessary stops for rest, fuel, and meals along I-40 out of Oklahoma, through Arkansas, Tennessee into the western part of North Carolina. We arrived in Knoxville, Tennessee around ten o'clock in the evening on Thursday. We went further east then turned south and entered the mountains of North Carolina. Before we crossed the state line we went through Dollywood, Tennessee. I believe our riders thought we might see Dolly Parton standing by the road waving to us, the males anyway.

There is now a way possible

to reach Cherokee without going through some large mountains. We hit the mountains and I thought we weren't ever going to get through them. We drove and drove and after an hour and a half we saw the lights of Cherokee. What a sight finally. I think some of us were feeling a bit queasy.

The next morning we headed out to the grounds located in the middle of Cherokee. The town itself appeared to me to be a real tourist trap. Quick stops, restaurants, and "Indiani stores. Some even had ireal Indians" out on front dressed out in feathers and war bonnets having their pictures taken with the tourists.

My drivers, Frank Harjo, Brent Moffer, Ken Taryole and myself tried to be helpful to our craftspeople in setting up their booths and doing what we could. Most of the time though we spent sitting by the booths watching everything going on and sitting in the grandstand for the performances. Our Creek Nation dancers performed very well as usual. Thanks should go to Irene Cully and her husband, Farron for their group's stomp dancing presentation. The Chickasaws, Mississippi Choctaws and the Eastern Cherokees also danced and made oral presentations.

Our trip organizer was called in the middle of the night on an emergency and two of my drivers

had to get up at three in the morning and drive him to Ashville, some distance to the east to fly out. I understand he was still waiting at noon the next day for a flight out.



Creek citizen, Mr. Sanders places third in the Blow Gun competition.

Saturday was pretty much the same schedule as Friday. However, some competition was held with blowgun shooting, archery, and judging of arts and crafts. Also a race of ten miles

and another race under a mile were scheduled with a member from each tribe taking part. The Chief of the Eastern Cherokees had even challenged the Chiefs of the other Southeast Tribes to a quarter mile race. My brother and I had wondered how old he might be. I found out while there that he is only 41 years old. No wonder he wanted to race the chiefs.

Some members of our group did quite well in the competitions. Mr. Sanders of Okemah placed third in the blowgun shooting. Bill McCully of Pryor placed second and third with his paintings and rock works.

The area around Cherokee is very beautiful with high mountains all around. I can understand why people would want to live there.

However personally, being used to the flat lands of Oklahoma, I felt hemmed in by tall mountains all around. I felt somewhat claustrophobic.

If some day I make the trip to Cherokee, my drivers found a way out by going to the East some thirty miles then picking up I-40 near Ashville. That's the way we came out on our return back. It was a little farther, but straighter, better highways, and faster. We again traveled all day in order to make it home Sunday night. We arrived in Okmulgee about 8:30p.m. We were happy to be home.

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Utility Company or other Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	Telephone _____
Account No. _____	Amount owed _____
Utility Company or other Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____	Telephone _____
Account No. _____	Amount owed _____
Monthly Expenses (Medical, Prescription, Education, 401K, Other) _____	

Requirements For Eligibility:
Veteran must have Honorable, or General Under Honorable discharge.
Veteran or Spouse must be an enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizen.

Instructions:
Submit copy of Discharge; DD 214, NGB 22, WD Form.
Active Duty – submit Statement Of Service from Command.
Submit copy of proof of Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizenship.
Surviving Spouse – submit copy of Veteran’s death certificate.
Attach copies of current bills, disconnection notices and all other expenses to be considered.
Incomplete application will not be considered.

Mail application and all documents required to:
Veterans Affairs Services Office (VASO)
Muscogee (Creek) Nation
P.O. Box 580
Highway 75 & Loop 56
Okmulgee, Oklahoma 74447

Post Grant Instructions
Grant Recipient will please submit all receipts within 30 days from the issue date of grant check to VASO. Failure to submit receipts of funds expenditures to VASO within 30 days will result in Grant Recipient reimbursing all funds, and disqualification from future grants.

I, _____ understand the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Services Office may in cases of fraud, misrepresentation or withholding of information, bar the applicant from future benefits, and/or refer to the Attorney General of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for prosecution. I certify the information listed on this application is correct. Furthermore, I authorize the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Services Office Director to obtain any and all information from my records with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and/or other agencies to assist in the processing of this application.

Signature of Applicant

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY	
	Recommendation
Shelter	_____
Utility/Other	_____
Utility/Other	_____
Utility/Other	_____
Other	_____
Veterans Affairs Services Office Director/ Date _____	
Fund Account No. _____	

Committee Approved	
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
Committee Member/ Date _____	

LEGAL NOTICES CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2

account for daily and annual balances of Indian trust funds. Sec. 4011 provides “Annual audit. The Secretary shall cause to be conducted an annual audit on a fiscal year basis of all funds held in trust by the United States for the benefit of an Indian tribe or an individual Indian which are deposited or invested pursuant to section 162a of this title, and shall include a letter relating to the audit in the first statement of performance provided under subsection (b) of this section after the completion of the audit.

The Act further states in Sec. 4012, “Authority for payment

of claims for interest owed. The Secretary shall make payments to an individual Indian in full satisfaction of any claim of such individual for interest on amounts deposited or invested on behalf of such individual before October 25, 1994, retroactive to the date that the Secretary began investing individual Indian monies on a regular basis, to the extent that the claim is identified -

(1) by a reconciliation process of individual Indian money accounts, or

(2) by the individual and presented to the Secretary with supporting documentation, and is verified by the Secretary pursuant to the Department’s policy for addressing accountholder losses.”

I fulfilled the requirements of section 4012 without getting satisfaction of a reconciliation, accounting, audit, or reimbursement. My most recent attempt to get my claim satisfied was by letter to Ross Swimmer, Office of Special Trustee. When I got no response, I sent more letters to Gail Norton, Secretary, Department of Interior, James Cason, Associate Deputy Secretary, Ross Swimmer, Office of Special Trustee, and John Snow, Department of the Treasury. To date, I have not received acknowledgment from any of these persons.

The American Indian Trust Fund Management Reform Act of 1994 had so many good points and if carried out, would have been great for our people. Why make new laws when the old ones are not enforced? I am very troubled by the proposed Indian Trust Act of 2005 introduced by the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

When I found out the House Resources Committee was having a joint meeting with the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs on February 16, 2006, I wrote letters to both Senator McCain and Representative Pombo directed to all members of each committee with comments on many sections I believe are not in the best interests of Indian people.

For example, the statute of limitations cuts off claims made by those deceased before 1994 and does not cover some of the most productive years of royalty income for Oklahoma Indians. It also appears to take away American Indians’ redress to the court by stating, “a claimant shall not maintain an action in any Federal, State, or other court for an accounting claim originating before the date of enactment of this Act.” Also, if you do not agree with the Special Master with respect to the amount of a share payment claim, a claimant must file only in the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia. How many of us can afford to travel to D.C.? Additionally, there is no basis for settlement figures for Congress to use when appropriat-

ing money for a settlement fund. See the attached letters to both committees and members of the oversight hearing on March 1, 2006, detailing my position.

The Cobell court termed me as being “frustrated.” I am very frustrated because I have worked for so long without success or even acknowledgment of my efforts for the most part. In the past I had letters from Senator Coburn and Representative Boren, Congressmen from Oklahoma. One told me to pursue my case in court and the other advised me to wait for legislation.

I became more frustrated when I read the proposed Indian Trust Reform Act of 2005. I urge all of you to read it from an individual’s viewpoint and ask if this is what is best for American Indians. I ask all who represent tribes to remember that tribes are made up of individuals. If my individual rights are eroded, then yours will be also.

Senator McCain in his July 26, 2005 statement in a hearing on S. 1439 stated, “We made it very clear to all parties that the bill was intended to provide a basis for discussion and review of the issue, and we welcomed comment and the opportunity to improve it.” I sincerely hope Senator McCain and Representative Pombo and the members of their committees will take notice of my comments and use them to improve the proposed bill. I urge you write to these committees before their next meeting at the end of this month. The Tribes of Oklahoma will be the biggest losers in this legislation since it cuts off the statute of limitations and eliminates the years when our lands were bringing in more royalties and income during the oil and gas boom years, which can be documented.

The Cobell Defendants (Departments of Interior and Treasury) also termed me a “non-party” to the class action. This being the case, I must fight my own individual fight without help. My only voice this far is through letters I write to various individuals, congressmen, tribal newspapers, and other interested parties.

When Senator McCain stated in his July 2005 statement, i”And, I would like to believe that at the end of the day the individuals who struggle through the drama of the litigation on both sides would like to see them made as whole as is possible in the circumstances we all confront.” Senator McCain wasn’t necessarily speaking about Indians being made whole; he is concerned about the defendants as well. I ask you, how have the defendants in Cobell been injured? We certainly haven’t injured them. They are the ones taking our money and other valuable assets. If the government had done its duty, there

See **Legal**
Continued On Page B5

LOUIS BEAVER

FORT BRAGG, North Carolina - Funeral services for Sergeant Major Retired Louis Beaver were held November 14 with full military honors.

He was born May 18, 1925 in Eufaula to Turner and Nellie Hawkins Beaver.

Louis was a retired paratrooper serving 22 years in the United States Army. He served in World War II and the Korean Conflict and was a highly decorated Trooper, serving with the 11th and 82nd Airborne Division. Louis also retired from the U.S. Postal Service, Civil Service with 17 years.



Beaver

Beaver was a member of the First Baptist Church of Oak Island where he served as a dedicated deacon and Sunday school teacher.

Preceding him in death was: his parents; brother, Byah Beaver-Barnette of Muskogee and the late Reverend Weslie Barentte.

Survivors include: wife, Evamarie (Evelyn); five sons, David Louis, Thomas Mark, Christopher Patrick, Kenneth Whittney and James Michael; two daughters, Amber O. Shev and Robin Kimberly Beaver Bailey and seven grandchildren.

Interment was at Fort Bragg Cemetery in North Carolina.

DAVID VANSTRATEN

DEWAR - Funeral services for David Wayne VanStraten were held May 26 at the First Baptist Church with Reverend Robert Parker officiating.

He was born June 29, 1978 to David and Teresa Blankenship VanStraten in Okmulgee.

David was a member of the Flowing River Church of God in Henryetta. He enjoyed hunting, fishing and being with his family.

Preceding him in death were his father and grandparents, Jewell Mozelle and Charles “Monk” VanStraten.

Survivors include: wife, Sally

LEGAL NOTICES CONTINUED FROM PAGE A2

not have to be appropriations to pay Cobell plaintiffs and other IIM beneficiaries. Our money would be there, safely invested and earning interest at the current market yield. They screwed up and are trying to make us feel guilty about asking for what belongs to us. I do not feel guilty and neither should you.

When Senator McCain said in his July 2005 statement at the S. 1439 hearing, “If the federal government is going make this money available to attempt to right a wrong perpetrated over many years of mismanaging accounts, it does not strike me as unreasonable that the legislation resolve the class action for historical accountings and remove it from the court for a prompt and fair distribution to claimants.” I ask why should Congress legislate away the court’s decision in violation of the Separation of Powers Doctrine?

When a group of tribal leaders got together and formed 50 proposals for individual Indians, for settlement of Cobell, the proposals were not incorporated in the 2005 Indian trust proposals. If you read the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs proposals and then read the House Resources Committee proposals, you could swear the same person wrote them both. The 2005 proposed legislation diminishes the 1994 Act if I understand it correctly.

So why am I concerned for all IIM beneficiaries? I helped form OILMAN in an effort to help other individual Indian members like myself who were either not being paid or underpaid on oil and gas royalties arising from restricted Indian land. Why am I concerned this proposed legislation will be fair?

Why has the issue of war bonds or Liberty bonds not been mentioned in any settlement agreement when the government took millions from IIM trust beneficiaries accounts and never repaid them beginning in 1918 during World War I and continued in World War II? Are IIM beneficiaries still paying for the war we are in now? I don’t know how much the federal government owes us, but it is substantially more than anyone wants to admit. Senator McCain stated, “Congress did this for the families of the victims of the 9-11 attacks. It is not a flawless way to proceed, but it has been demonstrated to be fair and prompt.” There were not millions of 9-11 victims.

I was surprised and shocked when the Office of Special Trustee’s phone contact person stated there were millions of Individual Indian Money beneficiaries, not approximately 500,000 as stated in the Cobell litigation. You do the math, if there are millions of IIM beneficiaries, how much will be fairly distributed to each of those millions of people, some of whom they can’t locate. What happens to their share? Senator

McCain has already stated that \$27.5 billion is too much. No one will get very much except the Cobell attorneys who already have an order that states they will get paid approximately \$7 million. Is that equal justice?

Attachments:

February 16, 2006 letter to Senator McCain and United States Senate Committee on Indian Affairs Members

February 16, 2006 letter to Representative Pombo and House Resources Committee Members

March 7, 2006 letter to Members of the Joint Oversight Hearing Committee Attendees

NOTICE

PROPOSED GRAZING LEASES - RESTRICTED INDIAN LAND

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR - BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

OKMULGEE FIELD OFFICE (PROPERTY AVAILABLE TO LEASE)

Sealed bids will be received until June 30, 2006, 10:00 am CST and opened at that time in the office of the Superintendent, Creek Nation Tribal Complex, Okmulgee, Oklahoma for the leasing of Restricted Indian land, described herein. The right is reserved to reject any bid and withhold approval of a lease even though submitted as a result of an accepted bid. In the event two or more high bids on a tract are in the same amount, the bidders submitting the tie high bids may be required to draw lots or submit sealed rebids to determine the successful bidder.

The lessee will be required to furnish with each lease a satisfactory surety bond in the amount that is reasonably assure performance of the contractual obligations under the lease.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: NE/4 SE/4 OF SECTION 11-T7N-R8E, LESS TWO (1) ACRE HOMESITES, 38 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, HUGHES COUNTY, STATE OF OKLAHOMA

To obtain more information and the proper bid forms, please contact Muskogee (Creek) Nation Realty Trust Services Sonya Lytch, Realty Trust Services Manager, 918-732-7713 Sabrina Pike, Realty Assistant/Lease, 918-732-7703 Chris Natseway, Realty Clerk/Lease 918-732-7709

or you may write: Muskogee (Creek) Nation Att: Realty Trust Services P.O. Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447

RUSSELL CRINER

HECTORVILLE - Funeral services for Russell D. Criner were held May 19 at Hectorville Free Will Baptist Church officiated by Pastor Willie McCaslin.

He was born on November 22, 1938 in Claremore to Devo and Nada Hazel Anderson Criner.

Russell was a member of the 1957 graduating class of Twin Hills High School.

He served his country as a member of the United States Army from 1961 to 1963.

His working years were spent primarily as a self-employed dump truck driver and he also drove a truck for Affiliated Foods.

He was a deacon at the Hectorville Free Will Baptist Church and also faithfully

CHRISTINE WOLFE

Preceding her in death was: her parents; son, Bobby Isham; brother, Merle Davis and husband, Billy Wolfe.

Survivors include: eight children, Theodore Isham of Okmulgee, Richard Glen Isham of Holdenville, Arlene Isham of Okemah, Jerome, Susan, Michael and David Isham and Luci Wolfe, all of Lamar; 20 grandchildren; 16 great-grandchildren; two brothers, Frank Davis of Lamar and Leo King of Tulsa; sister, Sue Ann Davis of Lamar; one aunt; two sisters-in-law; numerous other relatives and many friends.

Interment was at the Lamar Cemetery.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Hensci Muskoke Family!

When I was a child my family moved from Oklahoma to California. I was always aware of my Muskoke heritage all my life and whenever we would visit my grandmother. Beulah Doyle Combs in Oklahoma. She would take me to the Old Creek Council House in Okmulgee when it was still the capital building of the Creek Nation. She would point out a painting on the wall and tell me he was our ancestor who survived the trail of tears. I always felt it was part of me and yet I did not belong since I lived so far away.

I enrolled my children when they were very young and they felt less connected than I did.

All these feelings changed last year. My wife was having trouble with her back and this was affecting her ability to work and thus, our income. Our two oldest daughters are in college and we knew we were going to have trouble paying for their college tuition. A Muskoke friend who was a member of the California Muskogee (Creek) Association suggested we contact the Higher Education Department under Chennena Davis. I thought this was a God send. The Muskogee nation came through and helped my children remain in college and continue their education. Hopefully one day they will be able to give back to the tribe ten fold.

This past New Year’s Eve, two weeks after my wife’s spinal fusion operation, a major natural disaster struck our home. At 4:30a.m. flood waters surrounded and then engulfed our home. My wife could barely walk to the evacuation vehicles. She cried when she saw our children’s bible that her grandmother had given them floating away in the flood. I later was able to recover it, but it was lost from mold. Multiple tens of thousands of dollars of damage was done to our home and today we are still living in a motel as repairs continues. But yet again the Muskogee (Creek) Nation breached the miles to lend a helping hand. Funding had already been set aside to help Mvskoke disaster victims. The Muskogee Nation graciously extended the relief funds to my family. How do I begin to offer thanks and gratitude for the tribe’s generosity?

I have not needed to ask for help since I was a young man. I am humbled by having to do so this year. The MCN generosity does not come from a since of entitlements but from a real desire to help all its tribal citizens. I am so proud to be Mvskoke and a part of a Nation that does not ignore their own that live far away.

This is to thank the great Mvskoke Nation and its wonderful citizens. I want to especially thank Chief A.D. Ellis and

attended the Faith Holiness Church in Sapulpa.

He loved C.B. radios, playing music, singing and camping.

Preceding him in death was his first wife, Barbara Criner and two infant children.

Survivors include: wife, Patricia Criner; daughter, Carri Leete of Mesquite, Nevada; son, Russell Criner II of Okmulgee; two grandchildren; step-daughter, Cynthia Mills; three step-grandchildren; one aunt; several cousins; other relatives and friends.

Casketbearers were: Rusty Flud; Red Fields; Tom Harrell; Duane Gann; Ira Britt and Stanley Schooley.

Interment was at Bixby Cemetery.

MAURICE HILL

SAPULPA - Funeral services for Maurice Cameron Hill were held June 1 at Smith Funeral Home.

Maurice was a laborer.

Survivors include: his son, Jason Hill and parents, Chapman Hill and Colleen Star Hill.

THOMAS MILLER

VACAVILLE, California - A mass for Thomas O. “Tom” Miller was held at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

He was born August 30, 1920 in Oklahoma.

Miller served in the U.S. Coast Guard as Seaman 1st and served on a destroyer escort in the Atlantic in WWII, 1942-46. He worked for Standard Oil as lead guard for 32 years, retiring in 1978.

He enjoyed bowling, fishing and camping. Thomas was a member of Redman, Moose, Knights of Columbus, Contra

ROSCOE WOLFE

OKMULGEE - Funeral services for Roscoe Wolfe were held May 25 at the McClendon-Winters Funeral Home Chapel with Alfred Berryhill and Dave Long Jr. officiating.

He was born in Cromwell on December 1, 1937 to Birdie and Myrtle James Wolfe.

Roscoe retired from the City of Ft. Worth, Texas.

His parents preceded him in death.

Survivors included: two sons, Rick of Okmulgee and Michael Wolfe of Tulsa; brother, Jim Wolfe of Moore and four grandchildren.

Pallbearers were: Micah Wolfe; Phil and Perry Booker; Steve Woodfield; and Wayne and Dustin Golightly.

Interment was at the Newtown Methodist Cemetery.

Muscogee Nation News

P.O. Box 580

muscogeenation-nsn.gov

Check Out The Festival Information Located In Section C Of This Issue!

Executive Staff. I want to thank Speaker George Tiger, Roger Barnett and all the National Council members for creating a bill that benefits all Mvskoke people. Della Cherry, Claude Sumner, Mike Flud, Heather Sunday and the kind people of the Social Services Department. Chennena Davis and the Higher Education Department have given us relief that our college children are taken care of while we go through these hard times. Also thank you to California Muskogee (Creek) Association and Eli Grayson for all the advice to me and my family. My family through many generations will talk of the kindness and grace that Muskogee Nation has granted us

MVTO,
Mike Combs
California

The family of Christine (Isham) Wolfe wishes to thank all of the community for their prayers and kindness during our time of bereavement.

I’d like to thank a few helpers and then ask for help and prayers to set up a unit or work group of social conscience that will allow for the Creek people to send their loved ones on their final journey with grace and dignity.

First, thanks to the fine and gracious women at Many Springs Indian Baptist Church and Faith Baptist Church, Dustin, in all of their efforts to help ease much of the details for us. Also thanks to the employees of Heartland Hospice of McAlester. Without the aid and support of the hospice, we would not have been able to give

our mother the gift of spending her last days at home with her church family, family and friends. We know that our mother is in a better place now and the care that we were able to give her at the end was of great comfort to her.

I would also like to thank the employees of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation’s driveway and roads division, who came out on the Memorial Day holiday to help dig the grave. This is what makes our tribe so special and great, the selfless acts of many individuals according to the traditions of our ancestors.

Second, the concept of Hospice Care is a wonderful concept. To be able to give the affected family member a dignified and comforting final moment in their own home is one of the greatest calls to service that we as Mvskokvlke can achieve. Spending the final days of life at home surrounded by family and friends and having church services at home is easier than at the hospital, where it seems like family and visitors are imposing on the hospital schedule and a person is a “patient.” I would like to see a working group formed to look at ways the Tribe can help families facilitate hospice care, including transportation to their home when an individual is at the end of their life. It may be that hospice care is less expensive than hospital care and this communal way of caring for its members is much needed by us all.

Mvto Cekicvkis ci!
Christine (Isham) Wolfe Family
Thanks to everyone for their support of great woman

Our mother, Christine Wolfe

Dear Editor:

I too am a Creek citizen, working for the Lord, not living among my people. After longing for home for 64 years, I will soon be back to spend the rest of my life with my relatives and tribe.

Yes, the Lord is returning soon, but not “because of the way things are in our Indian churches.” He is returning because of the plans He made more than 2,000 years ago.

It breaks my heart that some Christians choose to forget that “imperfect ministers and churches” is God’s territory, not ours. Hebrews 13:17 says “They will answer to Him if they err. Surely, we will be held accountable if we add to the burden of their calling.

“Imperfect Christians’ is God’s territory also. Where in His Holy Word does it way we have the right to usurp His authority? He alone is the judge of all. God takes a very dim view of self-righteousness. Rather than fill two or three pages of rebuttal to the shocking letter to the editor vilifying Indian ministers and Indian churches, I will simply say...

Let’s pray for Christians who preach Love, and in the same breath, trash the American Indian race, slam Indian ministers and churches, repeat hearsay, and espouse personal opinion, while totally ignoring Matthew 7:1-5, Matthew 23:28, James 1:26, James 3:6, 1 Peter 3:10, and many other such warnings.

See **LETTERS**

Continued On Page B6

Schumacher Funeral Home

Ron Schumacher is Announcing

Two new additions to our staff with over

80 years of combined experience to better serve you

Bob McLemore and Patty Fletcher



Honoring Muskogee Creek Traditions

130 W. 8th St.

Bristow, OK 74010

918.367.2244

Two Locations to serve your needs:

B.I.A. & Tribal Burial Funds may include a complete Funeral Service

1321 W. Columbia

Okemah, OK 74859

918.623.1133

JOBS

CEO - DIVISION OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Academic training through the Masters level in one of the public or allied health sciences, Business or Management fields. Substantial experience managing public health programs which encompass work in the following direct health care activities: Hospital/Ambulatory Care, Preventative/Rehabilitation/Contr act Health services. In addition, candidates must clearly show demonstrated ability to work with health care professional organizations at the State or National level. Evidence of an extensive amount of professional development and accomplishments as evidenced by promotions, career broadening assignments, demonstrated ability in public and professional presentations, active participation in professional organizations recipient of award of honors from nationally recognized associations for excellence and/or outstanding contributions to the field.

CLINICAL DIRECTOR - BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

A Ph.D. or Psy.D. in Clinical or Counseling Psychology from an accredited college/university. Five (5) years experience as a licensed psychologist. Five (5) years of managerial or supervisory experience. Current Licensure by the State of Oklahoma as a Psychologist or Health Services

Psychologist is required.

STAFF DENTIST - SAPULPA

A DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and a certificate from an accredited General Practice Residency program. Or, a DDS or DMD from a dental school accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. Licensure or ability to be licensed to practice dentistry in a state, territory or commonwealth of the United States, or in the District of Columbia. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) additional years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements.

STAFF PSYCHOLOGIST - BHS

A Ph.D. in Clinical or Counseling Psychology from an accredited program is required. Oklahoma license (or license eligible) as a Psychologist or Health Services Psychologist (preferred). Must be CADC certified or CADC eligible. A minimum of one(1) year clinical experience (may include internship) in a tribal setting (preferred).

PHYSICIAN

Candidates must be a graduate

of an accredited college/university of medicine receiving a M.D. or D.O. and must possess a current State of Oklahoma license to practice medicine, a DEA license. Medicare provider agreement, and ACLS certification. One (1) year of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited residency program or three (3) years of relevant experience without certification from an accredited residency program as stated in the educational requirements. Incumbent must possess current State of Oklahoma License to practice medicine and/or be able to obtain this license prior to employment with the Health System.

NURSE PRACTITIONER - (FLOAT STATUS)
Successful completion of an accredited course of study specifically designed for training professional Mid-Level Providers. Three (3) years of relevant experience. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AAMC or other body established for this purpose.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT - (2 POSITIONS)
Successful completion of an accredited course of study specifically designed for training professional Mid-Level Providers. One (1) year of relevant experience preferred. Course of study or program completed by the incumbent must be approved by a nationally recognized professional medical body such as the AMA, AAMC or other body established for this purpose.

MEDICAL LAB TECHNICIAN - OKEMAH
High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Successful completion of 60 semester hours of academic credit necessary to satisfy requirements of the position as well as a structured curriculum in Medical Laboratory Techniques at an accredited institution is preferred. Two (2) years

of relevant full-time Laboratory experience performing highly complex testing as a Technician Trainee may be substituted for the educational requirements. Certification as a MLT through the ASCP is preferred.

CODING SPECIALIST
High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A bachelors or Associates Degree in Health Administration or Technology is preferred. Three (3) to five (5) years relevant experience dependent upon the education qualifications stated above. Certification as a CPC or CCS-P is required. Certification from an accredited coding certification program is required.

Public Health Nurse (1 Positions) Coweta
Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing. Two (2) years of relevant experience in the field of Public Health. Incumbent is required to possess current licensure by the State of Oklahoma for Registered Nursing. BSN is preferred.

IT. SITE MANAGER - COWETA
Associate's Degree in Computer Science, Information Technology or related field is preferred. High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. One (1) year of work experience in computer science, information technology or related field. A combination of education and relevant work experience may be considered in lieu for the above education qualification preferences. Incumbent must be insurable and valid Oklahoma Driver's License is required.

CHS TECHNICIAN - COWETA (REVISED)
High School Diploma or GED equivalency is required. One (1) year relevant experience in a medical billing or related field. Incumbent must possess a valid

Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

CODING SPECIALIST (3 POSITIONS) - COWETA
High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. A Bachelors or Associates Degree in Health Information Administration or Technology is preferred. Three (3) to five (5) years relevant experience dependent upon the education qualifications stated above. Certification as a CPC, is required. Certification from an accredited coding certification program is required. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.

BILLING TECHNICIAN (2 POSITIONS) - COWETA
Associate Degree in accounting or a related business field is preferred. One (1) year of relevant experience is required with an Associates Degree. Four (4) years of relevant experience may be substituted for the educational requirements stated above.

COMPLIANCE OFFICER
GS-8, \$14.83 per hour: Associate Degree in Business or Health Administration or related field is and completion of formal coding training (CPC or CCS-P is preferred) and three (3) years of progressively responsible experience in medical/hospital billing.GS-10, \$17.89: Bachelors degree in Business or Health Administration or related field and two (2) years of relevant experience.GS-12, \$21.06: M.B.A., M.P.H. or C.P.A. and one (1) year of relevant work experience. Compliance experience is strongly preferred for any of the above levels. Valid Oklahoma Driver's License is required.

AUDIOLOGIST - COWETA
Masters Degree doctoral (Ph.D.) or equivalent in Audiology received from an accredited College or University. One (1) year

of relevant experience in addition to experience gained through an accredited Audiologist clinical practicum. Certification of Clinical Competence in Audiology (CCC-A) issued through the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA) and current State of Oklahoma Licensure for Audiologists is required.

MEDICAL RECORDS CLERK - SAPULPA
High School Diploma or GED equivalency is required. One (1) year relevant experience is preferred.

BILLING TECHNICIAN - LACKEY HALL
Associate Degree in accounting or a related business field is preferred. One (1) year of relevant experience is required with an Associates Degree. Four (4) years of relevant experience may be substituted for the educational requirements stated above.

OFFICE MANAGER - COWETA
High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Associates Degree in Business Administration, Medical Office Technology or related field of study is preferred. A minimum of one (1) year related experience.

PROCUREMENT CLERK LACKEY HALL
High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Associates Degree in related field of study is preferred. One (1) year experience in same or related field. Additional related experience may be substituted for education requirement.

REGISTERED NURSE - CNCH
Incumbent must be a graduate of an accredited professional school of nursing. One (1) of relevant experience required. Incumbent must possess a current State of Oklahoma Nursing license. For more information, visit the website at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/health%administration/jobs.htm or call (918)756-4333 or (800)782-8291.

Message

Continued From Page A8

HHS Secretary Leavitt, HUD Secretary Jackson, Transportation Secretary Mineta, Energy Secretary Bodman, Homeland Security Secretary Chertoff, Agriculture Secretary Johanns, Defense Secretary Rumsfeld, Attorney General Gonzales, Treasury Secretary Snow, and several Supreme Court justices. Also, Karyn Frist (wife of Senate Majority Leader) and Landra Reid (wife of Senate Minority Leader) also attended.

UNITY was designated by the Congressional Club to receive a contribution as the charitable recipient. UNITY was incorporated in 1976 in

Oklahoma as a national non-profit organization promoting personal development, citizenship, and leadership among Native youth.

UNITY's mission is to foster the spiritual, mental, physical, and social development of American Indian and Alaska Native youth and to help build a strong, unified and self-reliant Native America through greater youth involvement. UNITY believes our youth represent our greatest resource and, based on that belief, UNITY is fulfilling its commitment to our youth through a network of over 200 diverse youth councils in 34 states.

Leadership

Continued From Page A8

of American Indian leaders. Notably, the following highlights were considered to be significant according to the American Indian Policy Center in St. Paul, Minnesota regarding American Indian leadership: “(1). Spirituality was a core element of American Indian life and all leadership possessed spiritual significance. (2). Leaders demonstrated generosity and kindness, and honored all living things. (3). Elders cultivated the leadership of future generations. (4). American Indian leaders were humble servants to the community. Individuals did not leadership. Leaders emerged from their contributions to the community and the people and selected those considered most able to lead. (5). No one person was always a leader and many were leaders at different times. (6). The community could cease to recognize leaders by simply choosing to not follow him or her”. American Indian leaders led by example rather than by authority or command. (7). American Indian leaders took their time when making a decision. When they gave their word on a decision it was a final, binding pledge. (8). When tribal leaders met to deliberate on a matter they sought understanding and consensus through mutual inquiry. There was no debate. (9). American Indian methods of resolving social conflict were based on the concept of restitution that focused on restoring respectful personal and social relations. (10). A balance is sought and achieved when resolving a social conflict by correcting what was/is wrong through restitution in the physical or personal level.”

Based on the pervious highlights, American Indian persons and leaders born and raised in tribal communities and cultural families realize at an early age that something separated them from the mainstream of social development and leadership development and that something also shaped their perceptions and expectations of how leaders should provide leadership. On the other hand, some leaders and group members never realize the significance and importance of the community and the family environment and how it facilitates how group members operate as people.

Leadership was exhibited by our traditional and cultural communities for many generations since laws were handed down to the first people and how we were to operate in the new world. Leadership was modeled to us in our traditional Mvskoke churches and in our traditional Mvskoke ceremonial grounds and tribal towns. I remember the gentleness, the strength, and the oratory skills of Mvskoke leaders that have passed on.

My late parents taught values of humility, meekness and humbleness and that these values permeated Mvskoke culture with

my late father even saying, “if you get angry, you are not Mvskoke.” (G. Coser, S. Coser, personal communication, 1980). I interpreted his message to mean that Mvskoke values of humility, meekness and humbleness were the essence of who we were as Mvskoke people. Additionally, leaders were described synonymously with love, an element of traditional Mvskoke culture. Similarly, men and women served the community in a humble manner without recognition, without being in front and without seeking attention. My late father further indicated that through your hard work, people will seek you out; you do not have to advertise yourself and that “you work for the people, because you love the people.” (G. Coser, personal communication, 1980).

I believe strong leadership is recognized through exhibitions of traditional Mvskoke values and strong decision-making. I further believe the key elements to strong leadership and strong decision-making is the capacity to maintain inner peace, strength and to keep the community unified. Strength and togetherness in Mvskoke leadership is symbolic through the natural formation of a rock. Likewise, the ability to communicate as a group with strong group dynamics where each member is provided an opportunity to contribute without interruption with consensus resulting from the group discussion.

In summary, Young Bear & Theisz (1994) concluded that leadership is very difficult because you have to take care of yourself, your family and your whole community for a lifetime. Hardwick (1991) further expressed that “leaders represent the very values which shape their tribe, community, or organization—true leaders serve the people.” In brief and as we have seen, that “the old leadership is a different leadership with no prescribed period of time” according to Young Bear & Theisz (1994) with Marshall (1998) concluding on a positive note that the fact remains that Indian cultures are stronger today than they have been in many years.”

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Letters

Continued From Page B5

I thank God for West Eufaula Church and other Creek Nation churches and their ministers who affected my life. I thank God for the churches and ministers of tribes I lived among for years: The Otoes, Poncas, Pawnees, Tonkawas, Kaws, and Iowas, and the leaders and members of the Native American Church also. God bless them all for their ministry in my life.

God bless the Muscogee Nation, that I was privileged by Him to be born into 80 years ago.

Thanks for listening.
Mrs. Mary Lou (Billings) Black
Albuquerque, N.M.

Meth

Continued From Page A3

“Methamphetamine is killing our people and devastating our communities.” said Garcia. “It is our collective responsibility to put forth a collaborative effort to curb the use of this drug by increasing law enforcement on tribal lands, marshaling resources to address the health and social service needs of our people plagued by the drug problem and educating our young people on the deadly ramifications of its use.”

“According to a report by the Denver Post, from 2003-2004 - the year characterized by the highest documented increase in crystal methamphetamine (meth) use - criminal charges for drug possession increased 353 percent, assaults tripled, theft nearly doubled, and child abuse increased by 85 percent on the Wind River Indian Reservation. Similar reports are cropping up from reservations nationwide. Farther south, the Navajo Nation has experienced more than 100 percent increase in meth use on the reservation in the past five years. Recent data from the Indian Health Service estimate that 30 percent of American Indian youth have experimented with methamphetamines.”

San Carlos Apache Chairwoman Kathleen Kitcheyan shared her own tribe's experience with meth use. “There have been 120 suicide attempts and 84 actual suicides in my tribe alone since 2002,” said Kitcheyan. Some of these were directly related to the abuse of meth. Last year, 2005, in my tribe, 63 babies were born addicted to crystal meth. This has to change.”

National Congress of American Indians call for Action on the Methamphetamine and Drug Trafficking in Indian County. Call for Tribal Leaders to Form Reservation Initiatives on Methamphetamine and Drug Enforcement and Prevention. Call for a White House Initiative for Interagency Cooperation to Address Methamphetamine and Drug Enforcement and Prevention in Indian Country.

Decisions

Continued From Page A3

that you can own enough land for things like a home site, pasture area, or commercial development.

WHAT EVERY ALLOTEE SHOULD KNOW:

CHECKLIST:

1. Ancestor Roll Number - All tribes listed of 5 Civilized Tribes - Copy of applications (A) All heirs located and identified
2. Legal Description of allotment
3. Tract record book number and page number - find location at county courthouse where land is located.
4. Cemetery Identification
5. Probate number or determination of heir ship

6. Leases, grants of rights-of-way, easements
- (a) BIA lease number
- (b) IIM account number
- (c) Name of lessee - (Oil Company, grazing, etc.)
7. Problem areas -
- (a)) Environmental
- (b) Clean water, potable water
- (d) Spacing and pooling orders for O&G
- (e) Unapproved orders, leases, rights of way
- (f) Drainage of minerals
8. Illegal sales -
- (a) Lack of notice
- (b) Incomplete probate
- (c) Oil and gas lease problems
- (d) Correct blood quantum not used
- (e) Tax sales

All of this information was compiled by the OILMAN

Session

Continued From Page A3

NCA 06-039 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING A TITLE IV-B SUBPART 2 (“PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES”) FISCAL YEAR 2005 GRANT MATCH FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES ADMINISTRATION AND AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE - Sponsor: Cherrah Ridge-Quiett (\$1,716.00)

(REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS YAHOLA WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.)

- APPROVED (24-0-0), NCA 06-040 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE OKMULGEE AREA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION - Sponsor: Anthony Notaro; Co-Sponsor: Roger Barnett (\$5,000.00);
- APPROVED (24-0-0), NCA 06-041 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TRIBAL WORKFORCE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR A COLLEGE WORK EXPERIENCE PROGRAM - Sponsor: Johnnie Greene (\$158,880.00);
- APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-0-2), NCA 06-042 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT FIVE (5) POLITICAL CANDIDATES WHO WILL ADVOCATE FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA POLITICAL ARENA - Sponsor: George Tiger (\$22,000.00),

ABSTAIN WERE: EDDIE LAGRONE, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT AND RON CLEGHORN, TULSA DISTRICT;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0), NCA 06-043 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF 10% FOR THE REALTY DEPARTMENT - Sponsor: Larry Bible;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0), NCA 06-044 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO RYAL COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH FOR MAINTENANCE REPAIRS AND IMPROVED FACILITIES - Sponsor: Keeper Johnson; Co-Sponsor: James Jennings (\$41,000.00);
- APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0), NCA 06-045 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A YOUTH COORDINATOR FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR AN ANNUAL SALARY - Sponsor: James Jennings (\$38,165.45);
- APPROVED (21-3-0), NCA 06-046 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 02-051, AS AMENDED BY NCA 02-073, TO INCREASE THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION AMOUNT FOR THE ANNUAL MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FESTIVAL - Sponsor: Pete Beaver; Co-Sponsor(s): S. Caldwell; S. Ade (\$240,000.00);

VOTING NO WAS: BILL FIFE, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; JEFF FIFE, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; AND THOMAS YAHOLA, TUKVPTVTEC;

- APPROVED (24-0-0), NCA 06-047 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE AMERICAN RED CROSS FOR THE CONTINUANCE OF SERVICES OF ALL TYPES OF DISASTERS AND OR EMERGENCIES IN OKMULGEE, ROGERS, MAYES, WAGONER, MUSKOGEE, OKFUSKEE, SEMINOLE, HUGHES AND MCINTOSH COUNTIES THAT INCLUDES THE SOUTHEASTERN OKLAHOMA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS - Sponsor: Pete Beaver; Co-Sponsor: Johnnie Greene (\$50,000.00);
- APPROVED AS AMENDED (19-4-1), NCA 06-048 A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE

(Oklahoma Indian Land Management Association Network) checklist for restricted property landowners.

The goal is to assist every Indian citizen of Muscogee Creek Nation in collecting important documents in managing their restricted minerals and surface property. These documents once assembled can assist landowners' efforts to get land probated, addresses, fractionated issues, and to correct improper probate. The association hopes to hold training by the end of the summer.

For more information, you may contact Okfuskee District Representative Bill Fife, Muscogee (Creek) National Council or Marcella Giles @ (703) 827-0225, 926 Ridge Drive, Mclean, Virginia 22101.

(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A ONE-MILE WALKING TRAIL ON THE COMPLEX OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO HELP PROMOTE GOOD HEALTH AND HELP TO PREVENT DIABETES AND OTHER DISEASES - Sponsor: Pete Beaver; Co-Sponsor(s): J. Greene; S. Ade (\$130,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: LENA WIND, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; JEFF FIFE, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; RON CLEGHORN, TULSA DISTRICT AND PAULA WILLITS, TULSA DISTRICT;

ABSTAIN WERE: ROBERT JONES, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;

- APPROVED (20-4-0) NCA 06-050, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ESTABLISHING THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM AND RECREATION FOR CODIFICATION IN TITLE 16, “EXECUTIVE BRANCH,” OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, AND APPROPRIATING START-UP FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT - Sponsor: George Tiger (\$300,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: DUKE HARJO, CREEK DISTRICT; BILL FIFE, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; KEEPER JOHNSON, OKULGEE DISTRICT AND JEFF FIFE, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 06-054, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE TAX COMMISSION FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET - Sponsor: Sam Alexander (\$71,684.00);
- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 06-055, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS TO THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006 - Sponsor: Lena Wind; Co-Sponsor: Travis Scott (\$242,598.00).

BIRTHDAYS

Jonathan Ross Deerinwater



MANNFORD - Jonathan Ross Deerinwater turned seven on May 5. He celebrated on May 6 with a "Spiderman theme". Family and friends were in attendance to help him celebrate. They were served cake, ice cream, punch, popcorn, watched movies and a chance at the piñata.

He is the son of Eyahni Sanders of Mannford and Eric Sanders of Clewiston; FL. Jonathon is the grandson of Alex and Pat Deerinwater of Bristow.

William Blake Thompson Postoak-Briggs



TULSA - Blake will celebrate his first birthday on June 7th. He will celebrate his first birthday with the "Spiderman theme"

He is the son of Brigitte Postoak and Jimmy Briggs. Maternal grandparents are the late Amos Postoak and Marion and Leon Graves.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Adams completes law school

MADISON, WI - Andrew Adams III graduated from the University of Wisconsin law school on May 12, 2006.

Adams grew up in Detroit, Michigan and received a BA in 1996 and MA in 1999, both from University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. After working for the University of Michigan's Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives for a number of years. He decided to attend law school in 2003. Andrew completed his first year of law school at the University of Tulsa College of Law, where he worked as a summer clerk for the Boesche Legal Clinic Muscogee Nation Indian Law Project. After his first year at the University of Tulsa, Adams, transferred to the University of Wisconsin Law School in 2004



Andrew Adams III

to complete the last two years. In 2005-06, Adams served as treasurer for the National Native American Law Students Association and as Vice President of the University of Wisconsin Indigenous Law Students Association.

He is the son of the late Andrew Adams Jr. of Beggs. His great great grandfather was Thomas J. Adams of Beggs, a past Muscogee Nation Supreme Court Justice and Speaker of the House of Warriors.

Andrew III is a member of Tallahassee Wykokaye ceremonial grounds and of the wind clan.

Andrew Adams III has recently accepted a position as a tribal attorney for the St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin in Hertel, WI.

Corey Pickup Jr. & LaDonna Pickup

SALINA - Corey A Pickup Jr. and LaDonna Pickup graduated from the 8th grade on May 9th from Salina High School.

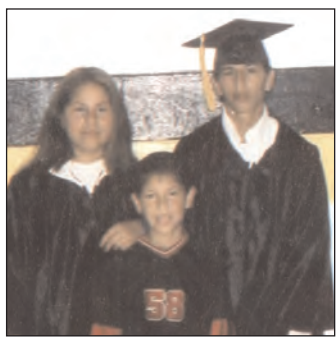
The same day their little brother Thomas "Little Red" received a student of the month certificate for April.

The Pickups are the children of Corey Pickup Sr. of Salina and Donna Bear of Okmulgee.

Grandparents are Betty and Louise James of Salina and Webster and the late Martha Chalakee of Okmulgee.

Those attending from out of town were their mother Donna,

aunt Margie and cousin Gina Vega.



LaDonna, Thomas & Corey Pickup

Tae Deerinwater

TAHLEQUAH - Tae Deerinwater a sophomore at Sequoyah High School was inducted into the National Honor Society along with 58 other S.H.S. students. She also received an Academic Award for Yearbook.

Sequoyah High School had a National Honor Society and Induction



Tae Deerinwater

Academic Awards Banquet April 25, 2006 to honor the students.

Tae was also named on the Freshmen Honor Society her 9th grade year. Tae has a GPA of 3.8.

Tae is the daughter of Eyahni Sanders of Mannford and the granddaughter of Alex and Pat Deerinwater of Bristow.



Left to right: Lisa Jessie, Cynthia Goodrich, Hepsey Gilroy and Wanda Morrison.

Gilroy celebrates 95th birthday

OKMULGEE - Hepsey Gilroy celebrated her 95th birthday with a party given by her children at the East Central Electric building held in the meeting room.

There were approximately 100 friends and relatives in attendance.

Cynthia Goodrich, granddaughter and friend Tom Long flew in from Orlando, FL and Heather Jessie; great granddaughter flew in from San

Francisco, CA. Nephew Jerry and Marie Morse drove from Austin, TX and their son James Morse who arrived home on April 15 after a nine-month tour of duty in Iraq.

Granddaughter Lisa Jessie was instrumental in providing the theme color of pink and green with green tablecloth and pink table runners and centerpieces of pink and green potted floral arrangements. The centerpieces were given as prizes. Also,

placed on the tables were miniature picture frames with a picture of Hepsey taken circa 1935 as thank you gifts for attendees.

Corsages were given to all ladies in attendance made by daughter in law Arleta Gilroy.

Great grandson, Joshua Goodrich sang, "Jesus Loves Me" in Choctaw to Hepsey.

Wanda Morrison would like to thank everyone in attendance that made this a joyous event for her mother.

Oklahoma Rural Elementary School State All Tournament Basketball Team

SEMINOLE - Joshua Roberts was selected to the Oklahoma Rural Elementary School (ORES) State All Tournament Basketball team 2006 held at Seminole State College.

Joshua is 14 years old and was an eighth grader at Justice Elementary School at the time selected.

He scored 17 points in the first round against Cleora and 18 points in the second round against Oak Grove. He has played for Justice Elementary since he was in second grade. This was the first appearance for the Justice Boy's team as a final four team.

The boy's team has competed in the Konawa tournament plac-



Joshua Roberts

ing second and first place in the Sasakwa tournament.

Roberts is the son of Sharon Yargee of Wetumka and Kendall Roberts.

He is the grandson of Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town -Chief Tarpie Yargee and Amy Yargee. He is the great grandson of Winney Yargee of Holdenville.

Paternal grandparents are Roy Roberts of Okemah and Velma Coker of Seminole. Josh is Euchee, Creek, Seminole, Cherokee, and Alabama tribe of Oklahoma. He is of the deer clan and a member of Sand Creek Euchee Ceremonial ground located in Bristow. He also participates at the Alabama Ceremonial Ground.

HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE SENIOR AND COLLEGE GRADUATES



John Tyndall Jr.

John B. Tyndall Jr.

School: Southwestern Community College - Sylva, NC
Clan: Bear
Tribal Town: Muskogee
Parents: John B. Tyndall Sr. and Mary Ann Morgan
Grandparents: William F. Tyndall Sr. and Grace Ellen Moore

Awards: Outstanding Academic Achievement with honors during the 2005-2006 academic years, Graduated Summa Cum Laude on May 10, 2006 with an Associate in Applied Science in Computer Information Systems with a major in Network Administration and Support
Activities: National Technical Honor Society
Plans: Enrollment at East Carolina University to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology with a major in Business Administration



Cody Factor

Cody Factor

School: Butner High
Parents: Ladena Moore and Luther Factor
Grandparents: Elizabeth

Dovis and Joseph Factor
Great Grandmother: Ada Scott
Aunt: Pat Factor
Activities: TSA President, Basketball, FFA
Plans: Work; Pursue a career in Criminal Justice



Lee Allen Longhorn

Lee Allen Longhorn

Clan: Eco (Deer)
School: Bixby High School
Tribal Town: Ocevpcv (Hickory Ground)
Awards: Eastern District Honor Band, Bixby High School Wind Ensemble, Bixby Optimist Club Leadership Award, Oklahoma American Indian Chamber of Commerce Leadership Award, Bixby High School Jazz Band - Tenor Sax, All District Superior rating for a Solo on Alto Sax
Activities: Eight Years in Band, Tri-M Music Honor Society and Indian Heritage Club President
Parents: Alvin and Patsy Bucktrot
Grandparents: Maternal grandmother the Late Clarabell McClelland of Claremore; Paternal Liza Harjo of Konawa and Wayne Longhorn of Little Axe and the late Lucille Blanchard Longhorn of Little Axe

Laura Anne Wilson

Degree/School: M.S. Kinesiology from the University of Arkansas
Clan: Raccoon
Tribal Town: Tukvpytce
Parents: Al and Sandy Wilson, Morris
Grandparents: the late James and Carmen Fife and the late Alvie and Ruth Wilson
Awards: Benjamin Lever



Laura Anne Wilson

Minority Scholarship; certification: National Athletic Trainer's Association Board of Certification

Activities: National Athletic Trainers' Association, Arkansas Athletics Trainers' Association; Razorback Athletic Trainers' Association, Athletic training student for UA Razorback football, baseball, cross country track/field, lady back tennis and Bentonville High School

Plans: To obtain a certified athletic trainer position at the high school or university setting



Christina M. Good Voice

Christina M. Good Voice

Degree/School: Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication from the University of Oklahoma
Parents: Kenneth II and Deborah Good Voice of Glenpool
Grandparents: Sally and the late Kenneth Good Voice of Okmulgee, Josh and the late Ramona Harjo of Eufaula
Awards: Native American Journalists Association Scholarship recipient for three years

Activities: Gamma Delta Pi Native American Sisterhood, American Indian Student Association, Native American Journalists Association Board of Directors, Rainbow Head Start Parent Committee
Plans: professionally, interning for the Associated Press for six months, with hopes of gaining a long-term reporter position with the AP; personally, getting married this fall.



Erik Jon Harjo

Erik Jon Harjo

School: Okemah High School
Clan: Wind
Parents: Ramona and Bobby Harjo
Grandparents: Pat and Simeon Johnson and the late Andrew Wise Talamasey
Activities: playing horseshoes
Plans: keep working



Laura Adrienne Bible

Laura Adrienne Bible

Degree/School: Bachelor of Science Degree in Horticulture/Oklahoma State University
Parents: Dennis and Alexia Bible of Morris

Grandparents: Helen Bible and the late Lewis Bible and Alex and Kathleen Delso all of Dewar

Activities: member and former president Pi Alpha Zeta and an officer of the OSU Horticulture Club

Plans: Currently employed with the Oklahoma State University Teaching Greenhouses



Megan Slayton

Megan Slayton

School: Bishop Kelley High School
Clan: Sweet Potato
Tribal Town: Luchapoka
Parents: John and Jana Rae Slayton
Grandparents: the late Kenneth L. Childers, Sr. and the late Sandra Childers
Awards: listed among Who's who Among American High School Students; National Honor Roll; National Youth Forum in Science Attendee; received certificate signed by Pres. Bush for Maintaining a 3.5 GPA during her four years of high school; she has accepted to the University of Arkansas, Ohio State University and the University of Oklahoma
Activities: member of the B.K. freshman dance team; varsity football sports medicine trainer, member of the Roman Catholic Church of the Madalene in Tulsa
Plans: attend University of Oklahoma majoring in journalism

Kathalene Suzanne Carden

School: Moore High School
Clan: Wind
Parents: Jeffrey and Beverly Carden



Kathalene Suzanne Carden

Grandparents: Sue Morgan and the late Leland Morgan
Great Grandparents: Willie and Kizzie Compier

Awards: National Honor Society, 6A Fast Pitch, softball state champs, varsity soccer - 4 years, varsity softball - 4 years;

Activities: Art Club - National Honor Society

Plans: Oklahoma City Community College then transfer to University of Oklahoma to major in the health field



Yafke-Kolvsua Marks

Yafke-Kolvsua Marks

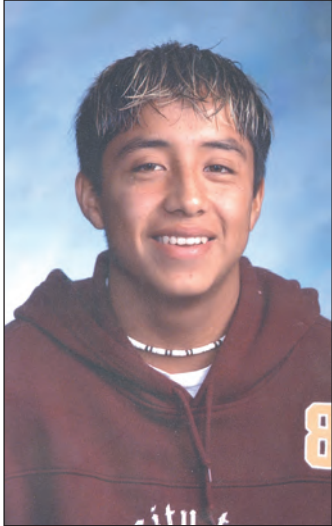
School: Northwest Classen High School
Clan: Eco
Parents: Thomasine Wind and Chebon Marks
Grandmother: Josephine Wind
Awards: Miss O.C.M.A. 2006 Oklahoma City Muscogee (Creek) Association
Activities: Slow pitch softball, volleyball, Native Knights Club
Plans: Attend Oklahoma City Community College to get my basics then transfer to Haratiage College for Massage Therapy

Creek Athlete Heading to Rockies for Indigenous Games

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

OKEMAH—When more than 10,000 Native athletes begin to file out onto the turf at Invesco Field at Mile High Stadium in Denver for the opening ceremonies of the 2006 Indigenous Games, there will be a wide-eyed Creek athlete from right here in our backyard joining them.

Cameron Fixico, who is from Okemah, has been selected onto Team Oklahoma and will compete in the games' basketball competition. This is certainly a great honor for Cameron, as only 10 boys from the state of Oklahoma were selected to make the trip to Denver. The process was not without suspense, however, as Cameron and his family spent many restless hours awaiting word on the results of the try-outs. The first try-out took place in March, which Cameron made and advanced to a final try-out consisting of 15 boys with five final cuts to be made. His whole life had been spent with a basketball in his hand, so the results of this try-out



Cameron Fixico

weighed heavily on Cameron's mind. That was, until, he received a letter in the mail a little over a week later that simply said "Congratulations, Welcome to Team Oklahoma." In Cameron's estimation the outcome was never in his own hands. "I looked at it as, if God wants me to make the team, I'll make the team," he said. The North American

Indigenous Games started as a vision in 1977 that became a reality 13 years later when the First Annual Indigenous games were held in Edmonton,

"Congratulations, Welcome to Team Oklahoma"

Alberta, Canada. Since then the games have been held in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, Canada. There was a lone U.S. stop in Blaine, Minnesota in 1995 but now the games have come back to the states and will kick off from Colorado's Mile High City on July 2. In addition to competition in more than 16 sports for youth ages 13-19 and adults ages 20 and over there is also a Cultural Village, where various Native cultures are shared and showcased, that runs through the course of the games and is a highlight for everyone in attendance. The games will conclude with the closing ceremonies on July 9.



Thunder Takes Second at Kellyville Tourney

The Okmulgee Native Thunder, a first year 10 and under fast-pitch softball team, traveled to Kellyville recently and took second place out of twelve teams in an all-day tournament. The girls definitely needed stamina and perserverance throughout the day as they played seven back-to-back games the first game at 9:00 a.m. and their last at 10:00 p.m.

They dropped their first game of the tournament to the Henryetta Impact 5-0 before

racking off five consecutive wins. In that span, they took down the Diamond Divas 7-0, the Sand Springs Dirt Divas 5-1, Bristow Dreamers 6-1, Henryetta Dynamites 3-2 and the Depew Stars 2-0. That five game stretch carried them all the way to the championship game where they would have a chance at revenge on the Henryetta Impact. The game was closer than the first, but the Impact claimed the victory and the title 3-1 with the Thunder claiming second over-

all.

The Native Thunder were paced throughout the tournament by the strong pitching performances of MiKayla Waggner and Haley VanStraten. VanStraten had one perfect game and another only giving up one hit. The Thunder was no slouch offensively either piling up nine home runs on the day. The Native Thunder are coached by Daniel Factor, Ellie Factor and Lisa Dunn.

Hot Corner

by Jason Salsman

Well, folks the month of June is upon us. That means the ushering in of the summer season, baseball in full swing and the 32nd Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival. You know, it also means a birthday for yours truly at the end of the month. Now, in lieu of gifts money contributions can be made in my name to the Creek Nation Communications Department. If nobody jumps on that opportunity, hey, it was worth a shot!

If you decide not to, don't worry it is not going to dim my spirits. Life is good right now. The Oklahoma Sooners baseball team recently concluded their 2006 regular season. Now, I know a lot of you out there are so preoccupied with OU football (even though it is another three months before kickoff) that you might not have noticed it, but this OU baseball team has quietly put together one of their finest campaigns under first-year gen-

eral Sunny Golloway. While you were busy this spring following the practice gridiron, all the baseball team did was go out and win 40 games, matching their highest win total since the 1994 team who went on to nab the College World Series Championship. Thats no small feat when you consider some of the college baseball juggernauts that they mowed down on their way to that record. Long Beach State, Cal-State Fullerton, Rice, Notre Dame, Arizona State, all highly ranked, all fell to the Sooners this year. The most satisfying fact is that the Sooners are being rewarded for their success by hosting an NCAA regional at L. Dale Mitchell Park in Norman for the first time ever, kicking off the road to Omaha and the College World Series. Great job by the Sooners, maybe now people will go out and watch them!

It's a nice positive note after the last few weeks for the team. The whole incident with

Oklahoma State's Pistol Pete celebrating on Oklahoma's dugout after a series sweep was blown out of proportion and was bad for the two teams. The mascot had no business on the dugout. there's really no room for trash talk in baseball never has been, never will be. But, the Sooners handled it the wrong way. They should have turned the cheek and made OSU look like complete idiots, but instead they chose to retaliate and made both schools look bad. It's easier said than done to walk away from something like that, but if they had it to do all over again I just bet they would. Besides, there are other ways to handle something like that. For instance, I believe the proper retaliation would be to send one up and in on the lead-off man for OSU the next time the two teams played. It might sound a bit uncalled for, but anybody who has ever spent serious time in a dugout knows, that's how issues are settled on the diamond. Until next time . . .

Women

Continued From Page B3

University, Greenville, South Carolina.

In New England, a dramatization will feature the women preachers who served the area before 1956, and it will highlight the 1956 General Conference and the four women from Maine, known as the 4-Hs, who were received on trial in 1956. A "Timeline for Women Preachers in New England" has also been posted on the conference Web site.

The Troy Conference will show a series of brief vignettes during its four-day meeting. The conference theme "Take Nothing for the Journey" has been woven into the videos, which feature different women in the history of the clergy rights struggle.

Communications Director Sandra Brands said the Troy Conference also will have re-enactors portray Margaret Appleton Pickett, the mother of Methodism in the area; Phoebe Palmer, a holiness evangelist; Barbara Heck, the mother of Methodism in the New World; and Georgia Harkness, a teacher and theologian. A "walk-

through" museum exhibit will be another highlight.

Encouraging all God's people The Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference will feature a video on the living history of women in ministry. The conference is also creating a new endowment for a clergywomen's scholarship to be awarded to a woman in her final year of seminary.

The Rev. Heather Murray Elkins, an associate professor of worship and liturgical studies at Drew University in Madison, New Jersey, created a new version of a service used at a 2005 gathering of the planners of the International Clergywomen's Consultation. "A Service of Holy Communion for the Fiftieth Anniversary of Full Clergy Rights for Women" is available for use by congregations, annual conference and other church groups at www.gbod.org/worship/default.asp.

The Rev. HiRho Park, a staff member of the United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry, said she expects the celebrations occur-

ring across the church to not only lift up clergywomen's gifts but also "encourage all God's people in the work Christ has for us to do."

Said Park: "The cause of Christ and the mission of the church have been strengthened and blessed by the contributions of clergywomen throughout our long history."

Details on how other annual conferences are celebrating are available at www.gbhem.org/clergy-women/50thcelebration.asp.

Don't Forget the Muscogee Creek Nation Festival July 15-18, 2006. Get all the Details In Section C of This Issue.

Voters

Continued From Page B1

Benton, Lillian Y.
Berg (Barnett), Cindy
Berryhill, Aaron D.
Berryhill, Adrian L.
Berryhill, Billy E.
Berryhill, Brett W.
Berryhill, Charles R.
Berryhill, Emma
Berryhill JR., Garry E.
Berryhill, Harold J.
Berryhill, Jerry D.
Berryhill, Larry M.
Berryhill, Loren W.
Berryhill, Mark D.
Berryhill, Michael D.
Berryhill, Peggy J.
Berryhill, Richard A.
Berryhill, Shirley A.
Berryhill, Walter S.
Berryhill, Woodrow
Beshear, David W.
Best, John H.
Bethel, Pearla M.
Bettis (Hilton), Mildred
Bevenue, Joseph K.
Bevenue, Melissa M.
Bible, Matthew C.

Biermann, Mary L.
Bigler, Michael D.
Billen, Charles I.
Billhimer, Carolyn
Billie, Remona L.
Billings, Robert W.
Billy, Franklin T.
Bingham, Tammy L.
Bird, James E.
Birdcreek, Cravens
Birdcreek, Donna S.
Black, Carolyn R.
Blackwell, Douglas A.
Blackwell (Pegg), Janie
Bialock, Richard A.
Blankenship, Dempsey
Blankenship, Donald D.
Blankenship, Linda L.
Blankenship, Ricky W.
Block, Margaret C.
Boerstler, Darrell L.
Boneau, Kathryn J.

Bonner, Gary
Bonner, Ronald S.
Bonner JR., Sterling
Booth, Larry J.
Booth, Sara J.
Border, Peggy P.
Bosin, Sandra L.
Bouchie, Kristy L.
Boujaoude, Margaret
Bowen, Leslie D.
Bowers, Donna E.
Boyle, Barbarba
Bradford, Lillie
Bradshaw, Valerie A.
Bradwell, Kristie A.
Brady, Mary A.
Brandon, Barry W.
Brasuell, Perry C.
Brasuell, Stephen J.

Continued In Next Issue
JULY 2006

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MUSCOGEE NATION



FESTIVAL 2006

PRESERVING OUR CULTURE IN A CHANGING WORLD





June 2 & 3 Scholarship Pageant

The festival will kick off with the Miss and Jr. Miss Mvskoke Scholarship Pageant on June 2 at 7 p.m., followed by the Little Miss and Sr. Miss Mvskoke on June 3 starting at 10 a.m. Both pageants will be held at the Henryetta High School Auditorium.

On June 10, the newly crowned Mvskoke Royalty will make their first appearance at a reception held at the Creek Council House Museum beginning at 10 a.m. For more information, contact KoKo Lowe at (918) 732-7649.

June 9 & 10 Slow pitch Softball

Another fun event of the festival is the Men's, Women's and Co-ed Slow Pitch Softball tournament. This year's tournaments will have their own special weekend. Action starts on Friday, June 9 at 7 p.m. at the Claude Cox Omnplex and will continue on Saturday, June 10 beginning at 8 a.m.

All participants must be from a federally recognized tribe. Balls will be provided. Prizes will be awarded for the top four teams, MVP awards, all tournament team, and Golden glove award. For further information contact Mallory Bible at (918) 732-7639 or Sheila Buckley at (918) 732-7933.



June 9 & 10 Junior Rodeo

Some of the youngest and best cowboys and cowgirls around are Native American and this year's festival showcases the youth as the Creek Festival hosts the Jr. Rodeo, in conjunction with the Northeast Youth Rodeo Association (NYRA), in the Omnplex. Events begin at 6 p.m. For more information contact Barry Branson at (918) 267-3182.

June 15 Stomp Dance

To open the full weekend of the 32nd Annual Creek Nation Festival, a Stomp Dance exhibition will be held on the grounds of the Claude Cox Omnplex, in front of the main stage.

Fellowship will begin at 6 p.m., and dancing will continue until 12 a.m. Everyone is invited. For more information contact David Proctor at (918) 756-8504.



June 15-17 Koweta Clinic Grand Opening

Koweta Health Clinic will have their grand opening Thursday, June 15 in Coweta, OK at 10 a.m. Tribal transit buses will be available for transportation to this event.

The Koweta Health Clinic will be having an open house on Friday and Saturday, June 16 & 17 and everyone is welcome to come by and tour the new facility.

June 16 Youth Olympics

Indian athletes begin at early age and the Junior Olympics give each one a chance to show their athletic ability. The Junior Olympics will take place at 9 a.m. on Friday, June 16 at Harmon Stadium in Okmulgee.

Competition events at the Olympics include: ages 6-7, 30-meter dash, 50-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and softball throw; ages 8-9, 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and softball throw; ages 10-11, 50-meter dash, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter relay, and a hoop shoot; ages 12-13, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 400-meter relay, hoop shoot, and long jump; ages 14-15, 100-meter dash, 200-meter dash, 400-meter dash, 400-meter relay, 1 mile run, hoop shoot, and long jump. For more information, contact Tanya Bardin or Dawn Edwards at (918) 732-7869.



June 16 Elderly Activities

Muscogee people never forget their elders, and that's no different during the Creek Festival, there's several special events planned just for them. Friday morning, June 16, behind the Housing building, starting at 9 a.m. there will be a quilt show contest with first place receiving \$200, second place receiving \$150, and third place receiving \$100. There will be a jacks contest with sign up starting at 9 a.m. Prizes will be:

first, \$50; second, \$30 and third, \$20. A horseshoes doubles tournament will be played, with registration at 9 a.m. First place will receive \$200, second place will receive \$100, and third place will receive \$50. There will be 18 games of bingo and door prizes. However, a citizenship card is required to claim prizes.



Arts and Crafts welcomed, with set up starting at 8 a.m. and must bring your own tables and chairs.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and Speaker of the National Council will be on hand to honor the original allottees starting at 1:30 p.m. For more information please call Donna Martin at (918) 732-7962.

June 16 Youth Basketball

The youth 3 on 3 basketball will be held Friday night on June 16th at the Claude Cox Omnplex starting at 5 p.m. The entry fee is \$40 and the deadline to enter is June 3rd. The divisions will be 8 - 10 co-



ed, 11 - 14 girls and 11 - 14 boys, and 15 - 18 girls and 15 - 18 boys.

Prizes will be sweatshirts for 1st place, t-shirts for 2nd and 3rd place, and hoodies for the MVP of each division. For more information please contact Celesta Johnson at (800) 219-9458.

June 16 - 18



Fast pitch Softball (Men & Women)

Always an exciting sporting event of the festival is the Men and Women's Fast Pitch Softball Tournament. Teams from all over the country will compete. This year's action will start on Friday, June 16 at the Claude Cox Omnplex and the fast pitches will keep on going through Sunday when the top two teams left standing will battle it out to call themselves the "2006 Creek Nation Festival Champions!" The first pitch is thrown at 6 p.m. on Friday, with Saturday and Sunday's action starting at 8 a.m. and continuing throughout the day at the Claude Cox Omnplex.

Deadline to enter this prestigious tournament is June 2. To find out more about each tournament and receive an entry form contact Dean Williams at (918) 732-7790 or Phil Booker at (918) 732-7694.



June 16-18 Golf

Golfers have a busy festival weekend ahead of them. There is a scramble on June 16 at Fountainhead Golf Course in Eufaula and costs \$50 to enter. Registration ends promptly at 11:30 a.m. and the scramble begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, June 17, is the qualifying round for the tournament, during which players schedule their own tee time. The tournament starts on June 18, and the top 3 placers in each flight are the winners. Registration for the tournament is open through Saturday and the tournament is Native American only. For more information, contact Bert Robinson at (918) 689-2547.

June 16 & 17 Gospel Singing

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Gospel Singing will kick off at 7 p.m. on June 16 at the OSU Extension Building. This year's event promises to bring forth that "old time religion" feel with some great southern gospel and contemporary singing that will be entertaining as well as inspirational. Performers tabbed for the event include: The Shipley Family, Felicia Eller, Oscar Higgs, The Kingdom Messengers and LeAnna Grissom. Don't forget to attend this time of refreshing for the



soul. You can experience great fellowship and uplifting music in the same setting. For more information on the Gospel Singing contact Geebon Gouge at (918) 732-7711.

June 16 & 17 Rodeo

The 32nd Annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation All-Indian Rodeo takes place on June 16 and 17 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly at the Rodeo Arena, located at Highway 75 & Loop 56 behind the Travel Plaza. This year's event promises to include the excitement and entertainment that Festival rodeo fans have grown accustomed to. Entry fees will be accepted both nights at 5:30

p.m. Entry fees are \$75 for all events (Team roping \$75 per man and Junior events \$20 entry fee). Call-ins will be taken June 12 from 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. The phone number is (580) 924-8112. Non-association members must purchase a \$15 permit. You must provide tribal enrollment card at time of



entry. There will be a \$10 stock charge, stock provided by Western Ways Rodeo Co. For more Rodeo information, call (918) 732-7650.

June 16 & 17 Concerts

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Concerts are one of the most anticipated events of the year and this year's entertainment is certain to not disappoint in that regard. Entertainers from many different backgrounds and styles will grace the big stage over the course of two days providing electrifying performances for those in attendance. All concerts will be performed on the main stage at the Claude Cox Omnplex.

Friday, June 16 entertainment will be: Charlie Redd and The Full Flava Kings, 4:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.; The Boogie Boys, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m. and Irene Bedard and Deni Band, 8:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. The show closes out on Friday with headliners Lou Gramm & Foreigner from 10:30 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Saturday, June 17, line up includes: Irene Bedard and Deni Band, 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.; Second Chief Alfred Berryhill "Warm Welcome" Scholarship, 4 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Living Legends Ceremony, 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.; Chief Ellis "State of the Nation" Address, 5:30 p.m. - 6 p.m.; Mary Cogan, 6:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.; Rhett Akins, 8:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. and Bryan White, 10:30 p.m. - 12 p.m.

June 16 & 17 Hymn Singing

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival will be hosting the 3rd Annual Creek Hymn Singing on the campus of OSU-Okmulgee at Covelle Hall on June 16 and 17 lasting from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. on both days. Lunch will be served from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. at the Okmulgee Indian Community Center on both days. Shuttles to Covelle Hall from the Okmulgee Indian Community Center will be provided and will begin at noon. They will pick up and drop off every hour after departure. This event is a great chance to get in touch with the traditional singing of Creek people and witness one of the dearest facets of the Muscogee culture.



June 17 Horseshoes

The Horseshoe event this year will be held June 17, starting at 8 a.m. There will be a singles event and a doubles event. Each has a \$15.00 entry fee. Cash prizes to first, second, and third place, and for most ringers in one game (for singles only).

Players need to bring their



June 17 5k Walk/Run

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation 5k Walk/Run will take place on June 17 at Highway 75 and Loop 56 on the Muscogee Nation Complex. Runners and walkers are to



report at 8 a.m. An entry fee of \$15 will be taken up to June 16. The entry fee will be \$20 on Race Day (includes T-shirt). Entry fee without T-shirt will be \$10. Limited number of shirts available. Trophies awarded to Overall Male and Female. Medals to top three finishers in each group. Age groups beginning 12 and under up to 70 and over. Ribbons to first three overall male and female walkers. This event is coordinated by Glen's Racing Service. For more information contact Lila Garrett at (918) 732-7869 or Melinda Taylor at (918) 732-7727. Register by mail: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival 5k Run/Walk, Attn: Lila Garrett, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447.

own shoes, with no modified horseshoes allowed, and select their own partner. The tournament will be double elimination with 40 throws per game. Ringers count 3 points, close and leaners count 1 point. Women and men's seniors (62+) have the option to throw from 30' or 40', all others will throw from 40'. For more information contact Larry Soweka at (918) 759-1373.

June 17 Volley Ball

Volley Ball lovers have nothing to fear, their favorite game is back and kicks off on June 17 at 9 a.m. at the Claude Cox Omnplex. Registration is open until June 9 and costs \$65. The tournament is double elimination, teams are 8 players, and the games are played rally point to 21 for the first two matches, and rally point to 15 if there is a third match (Must win by two, cap at 25). There will be referees. Prizes this year include medals and jackets for first place, sweatshirts and medals for second, long sleeve t-shirts and medals to third, and t-shirts and medals to fourth. For more information, contact Christine Denny at (918) 296-3331.



June 17 Pow-wow

The Creek Nation's Festival's Pow-wow will be held on Saturday, June 17 at the OSU-Okmulgee Softball Field. The Gourd Dance will begin at 2 p.m., supper and registration will be at 5 p.m. A gourd dance will be at 6:30 p.m. Registration closes at 7:30 p.m. and the grand entry, social contests and dancing all begins at 8 p.m.

There are several contests including: Tiny Tots, Junior Boys; Junior Girls; Women's Cloth; Women's Buckskin; Women's Jingle; Women's Fancy Shawl; Men's Straight; Men's Fancy; Men's Grass; Men's Traditional; Golden Age Men (55+); Golden Age Women (55+); Drum Contests (Wireless Microphone will be provided).

For more information, contact Melinda Taylor and Pete Coser at (918) 732-7727.



June 17 Parade

The Second Annual Creek Nation Parade will be held in downtown Okmulgee. Parade entries must be submitted by Thursday, June 1st by 4:30 p.m. The line up numbers may be picked up at 10:30 a.m. All entries will be expected to be at

the line-up site at 11 a.m. The parade will go from West 6th and Alabama east to Porter Street. All winners will be notified.

June 17 Adult Basketball

The adult 3 on 3 basketball tournament will be held Saturday, June 17 at the Claude Cox Omnplex starting at 8 a.m. The entry fee is \$40. Prizes will be announced. For more information please contact Craig Mosquito at (918) 756-6473.

June 17 Child Safety Seat Check-up & Health Fair

The health fair and Child safety seat check-up will be held Saturday, June 17 starting at 9:30 a.m. with many different organizations giving out health and safety information and free goodies.

The Children's Clinic Staff of Okmulgee Indian Health Center (OIHC) will hold a child safety seat check-up clinic from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, June 17, at the Tribal Complex. Certified Child Passenger Safety Technicians will check existing child safety seats to insure that they are correctly installed. For children whose existing safety seats have been recalled or are not functioning correctly, there will be a limited number of child safety seats to distribute on a first come, first served basis. Seats are limited to two per family. Parents will need to provide a tribal enrollment card or CDIB for the child. Child must be present to receive seat. For information, contact the Debra or Pam at (918) 758-1926.



June 17 Living Legends


One great event of the festival is the living legends ceremony. Created by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, the living legends ceremony honors Muscogee (Creek) citizens who have made significant contributions to the tribe. The ceremony takes place on Saturday afternoon, June 17, at the Omnplex main stage. National Council Speaker George Tiger and Native American actress Irene Bedard will emcee this year's event. Applications are still being accepted for this prestigious honor until May 25. For more information, contact Rachel Sumka at (918) 732-7604.

June 17 Arts Festival

The 2006 Creek Council House Indian Art Festival has become a part of the scheduled festivities and will take place on

Saturday, June 17 on the historic grounds of the Creek Council Museum. The Council House is located in downtown Okmulgee. Native American artists from all over the country will showcase their art in the formats of paint, sculpture, pottery, jewelry and metal. Juried art, children's events, food vendors as well as the Native Praise choir will entertain the audience. Events begin at 10 a.m. along with a Creek traditional fashion show to begin at 10:30 a.m. The art festival is held in part by the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the arts. For more information, call (918) 732-2324.







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JUNE 9-10, 15-18 OKMULGEE, OK

CONTACT COORDINATOR FOR EACH EVENT

June 2nd & 3rd

Scholarship Pageant
Virginia Thomas 732-7939

Slowpitch Softball - Mallory Bible (918) 732-7639

June 9th & 10th

Slow Pitch Softball Tournament -Victor Bear (918) 261-2315

Junior Rodeo

June 15th

Stomp Dance - David Proctor - (918) 756-8504

June 16th

Youth Olympics - Tanya Bardin & Dawn Edwards (918) 732-7869

June 16th - 18th

Parade - Irene Culley (918) 756-9911, Ext. 334

Fastpitch Softball (Men & Women) - Dean Williams (918) 732-7790

Volleyball - Christine Denny (918) 296-3331

Basketball (Youth & Adult) - Craig Mosquito - (918) 756-6473

Horseshoes - Larry Soweka (918) 756-8504

Pow-wow - Dr. Cosar (918) 732-7727

Rodeo - Bob Arrington (918) 732-7650

Arts & Crafts - Melinda Taylor (918) 732-7727

Gospel Singing - Geebon Gouge (918) 732-7711

Creek Hymn Singing - Michael Coone

Senior Activities - Donna Martin (918) 732-7962

Golf Tournament - Bert Robinson (918) 689-2547

5-K Run - Lila Garrett (918) 732-7869

Art Contest/Fashion Show - Ted Isham (918) 756-2324

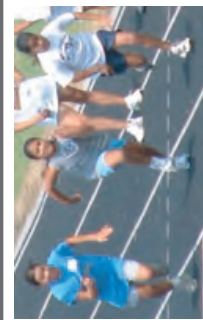
Musical Entertainment

Tulsa Casino & Salina Dornan (918) 732-7613

Vendors (Food) - Melissa Ambler (918) 732-7935

DOWNTOWN OKMULGEE

**CREEK COUNCIL HOUSE
MUSEUM**



JUNIOR OLYMPICS
FRI JUNE 16, 8:30AM
HARMON STADIUM



COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM
106 W. 6th ST
PAGEANT RECEPTION
SAT JUNE 10, 10AM
ART CONTEST
SAT JUNE 17, 10AM
PARADE
SAT JUNE 17, 12:30PM
DOWNTOWN OKMULGEE

GRAND AVE.

13th ST.

6th ST.

WOOD DR.

WOOD DR. (HWY 75)

US HWY 75

OTHER FESTIVAL ACTIVITIES

PAGEANTS

MISS & JUNIOR MISS

FRI JUNE 2, 7PM

LITTLE MISS & SENIOR MISS

SAT JUNE 3, 10AM

HENRYETTA HIGH SCHOOL

HENRYETTA, OK

KOWETA CLINIC GRAND OPENING

THURS JUNE 15, 10AM

31870 E. HIGHWAY 51

COWETA, OK

GOLF

FRI & SAT JUNE 16 & 17, 8 AM

FOUNTAINHEAD GOLF COURSE



CREEK HYMN SINGING

FRI & SAT JUNE 16-17, 1-6PM

COVELLE HALL

OSU-OKMULGEE

4th ST.

OSU - OKMULGEE
CAMPUS



POW WOW
SAT JUNE 17, STARTS 2PM
OSU-OKMULGEE
SOFTBALL FIELD

CREEK COMPLEX 2 MI. >

LIVING LEGENDS & STATE OF THE NATION

SAT JUNE 17th **OMNIPLEX**

4:00PM - 4:30PM "Warm Mvskoke Welcome" Scholarship

4:30PM - 5:30PM Living legends Awards

5:30PM - 6:00PM Chief Ellis "State of the Nation" Address



GOSPEL EXPO

FRI JUNE 16, 7:00PM

SPECIAL SINGING

OSU EXTENSION BUILDING

ONE HALF MI. WEST

OF OMNIPLEX



OMNIPLEX



SLOW-PITCH SOFTBALL- FRI & SAT JUNE 9-10, 7 PM

CHILDREN ACTIVITIES- SAT JUNE 10, 10AM

STOMP DANCE- THURS JUNE 15, 6PM-12

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FASTPITCH SOFTBALL-

FRI-SUN JUNE 16-18, STARTS 7PM FRI

VOLLEYBALL- SAT JUNE 17, 9AM

3 ON 3 YOUTH BASKETBALL- FRI JUNE 16, 5PM

3 ON 3 ADULT BASKETBALL- SAT JUNE 17, 8AM

HORSESHOES- SAT JUNE 17, 8:00AM

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT- FRI 4:30PM-12, SAT 3PM-12



MCN RODEO ARENA

JR. RODEO- SAT & SUN JUNE 10-11

SR. RODEO- FRI & SAT JUNE 16-17

7 PM NIGHTLY

SLACK SATURDAY 17th 10AM

CREEK TRAVEL PLAZA

MEMORIAL PLAZA

HOUSING BUILDING

BEST WESTERN IBLIK >

HWY 56

MCN COMPLEX

CREEK MOUND BUILDING

MARTHA BERRYHILL AVE

POLOKSE
CIRCLE



ELDERLY ACTIVITIES
FRI JUNE 16, 9AM
**ELDERLY NUTRITION
BUILDING**

5K RUN

SAT JUNE 17, 8 AM

MCN COMPLEX





MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

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July 2006

INSIDE JULY'S ISSUE

TRIBAL - SECTION A



Inside Section A of *The Muscogee Nation News*: Koweta Indian Health Facility officially opens in Coweta p. 5; Housing policy changes help improve services p. 6; and 2006 Joint Tribes JOM Youth Conference p.8.

FEATURES - SECTION B



Section B of *The Muscogee Nation News*: The coming and going in Indian Country p. 1; Oklahoma Missionary Conference hold annual meeting p. 3; Native Veteran remembered and honored p. 5; "Superchief" was one of a kind p. 8.

FESTIVAL - SECTION C



Section C of *The Muscogee Nation News*: Photo review of the 32nd Annual Creek Festival & Rodeo..

THIS MONTH'S REMINDER

On Saturday, July 22, between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m., the Nation will be giving away mattresses and box springs from Fountainhead Lodge. The giveaway will be held at the lodge located 6 miles south of I-40 on Lake Eufaula Road. There are approx. 200 king, full and twin size sets. This will be on a first come basis and anyone with a Muscogee (Creek) citizenship card is eligible. The Nation will only load mattresses and are not responsible for securing and transporting.

Chief and tribal officials to attend California association meeting



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis is greeted by Allen Mitchell of the California Muscogee (Creek) Association during a visit at the request of the association back in November 2004.
photo by Gerald Wofford

CALIFORNIA — The 2006 "Gathering of California's Creek Indians," will be held on August 5-6, from noon to 6 p.m.

This year, for the purpose of reaching as many Mvskoke citizens as possible, the California Muscogee (Creek) Association will hold the August 5 meeting in southern California followed by the August 6 meeting in northern California.

Special guests for both events will be Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Speaker George Tiger and tribal leaders from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Also on hand will be Jason Salsman

with the *Native News Today* television program.

The August 5 event will be held at the Recreation Park's "Fire Circle" located at 401 Sheldon Street in El Segundo, CA.

For those needing lodging, the Hacienda Hotel, located at 525 N. Sepulveda Blvd. in El Segundo, CA is offering rooms at \$89 per night, with reservation code "Muscogee (Creek) Nation." Reservations can be made in El Segundo by calling (310) 615-0015.

The August 6 event will be at the Oak Grove Park "Oaks Pavilion" located at 4520 W. Eight Mile Rd. in Stockton, CA.

For those needing lodging, the Radisson Hotel Stockton located at 2323 Grand Canal Blvd. in Stockton also has an \$89 offer with reservation code "Musco" which can be reached by calling (209) 957-9090.

Both meetings are potluck picnics and those attending are asked to bring lawn chairs and a covered dish.

For more information, contact California Muscogee (Creek) Association at (310) 487-7706 or by email at: cmca@comcast.net.

Custom made vests available for Veterans

OKMULGEE — The National Council recently approved legislation to appropriate funding to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Office for 300 custom-made service branch vests. The legislation was unanimously approved by a vote of 22 in favor and 0 against.

"Both Principal Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill enthusiastically endorsed this service," said Davis. "The legislation was sponsored by Representative Anthony Notaro, and co-sponsored by Representatives Shirlene Ade, Samuel Alexander,

Roger Barnett, Pete Beaver, Larry Bible, Johnnie Greene, Duke Harjo, Bo Johnson, Keeper Johnson, Robert Jones, Tom Pickering, Cherrah Quiett, George Tiger and Thomas Yahola."

According to Veterans Affairs Director Ken Davis, the service branch vests will be constructed to individual measurements and are free of charge. The vests can be worn anywhere at anytime as desired. Davis encourages veterans to wear the vests during the annual Veterans Day Ceremony and the forthcoming grand opening of the new Veterans' building next year.

To obtain a branch service vest, veter-

ans must provide a copy of their Military Discharge and must have been discharged with one Honorable, General Under Honorable Conditions, or Under Other Than Honorable Conditions. Measurements will be taken every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Veteran's office by the seamstress.

When the vests are complete, each veteran will be contacted and may pick-up the vest at the Veteran's office. Only one vest per veteran will be made.

For those veterans unable to come to the Veteran's office for measurements, their measurements can be mailed in. Below is a guide on how to measure for the vest: shoulder tip to shoulder tip, collarbone front down to middle of belt loop, nap of the back of neck to the middle of belt loop, measure around waist over the belly button, and chest measurement.

For more information or to send measurements, mail to: Ken Davis, VASO, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, P.O. Box 580, Hwy 75 & Loop 56, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Davis can also be reached at (918) 732-7739 or e-mail: kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.



Citizen participation encouraged in Constitutional Convention hearings

OKMULGEE — On Feb. 18, 2006, citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation cast ballots in the Special Referendum Election to amend the Nation's Constitution with 76.5% of voters favoring the change. As a result, the newly created Constitutional Convention Commission of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will conduct public hearings throughout the Nation. The Commission will accept citizen's views on constitutional amendments, revisions, alterations, or additions.

All eligible Muscogee (Creek) voters have the opportunity to recommend changes to the Constitution. The Commission strongly encourages citizen participation in such a historic event.

According to NCA 05-106 of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (resulting from the 2006 vote), Section 2D states, "The Constitutional Commission shall organize and promulgate rules and regulations in February and proceed to carry out the process of a Constitutional Convention that will ensure citizen input and participation throughout the Nation."

Therefore, to receive public opinion on the Muscogee (Creek) Constitutional, the Commission will meet with Creek communities until February 2007.

Section E of the law further states, "Constitutional Convention amendments, alterations, revisions, or new articles proposed by such Convention shall be submitted to eligible voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at a special election, called by the Principal Chief within one hundred eighty (180) days, and approved by a majority of the eligible vot-

ers voting thereon before the same shall be effective."

From the information gathered through public input, the Commission will present proposed constitutional changes to citizens, and amendments will be decided by way of a special election or public vote in a general election within those 180 days.

All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing on an amendment form, signed and notarized. During the public meetings, Commissioners will provide copies of the Constitution and amendment forms as well as notaries and translators.

The Commission consists of one person from each of the three branches of Government, and one person from each district selected by the caucus of National Council Representatives. Serving on the Constitutional Convention Commission are Chair Bill Fife; Vice-Chairs Roger Barnett, Patrick Moore, and Thomas Yahola; and Commissioners Ronald Cleghorn, Jeff Fife, Eddie LaGrone, Mike Flud, Bob Davis, George Tiger, and Tom Pickering. The Constitutional Convention Clerk is Sue Ann Sparks.

The Commission will schedule visits to Creek Community meetings to formally announce their intentions to accept input from all tribal citizens concerning the Constitution.

The schedule of hearings will be announced in future issues of the *Muscogee Nation News*, the Creek Nation radio program on Okmulgee's KOKLAM-1240 station every Wednesday from 9:30-10 A.M., as well as the *Native News Today* television program on COX cable every Saturday at 11 a.m.

Office of the Principal Chief

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Hello Friends and Tribal Citizens,
Again we are in the midst of a long hot summer with air conditioning problems, grand kids visiting and we're all getting older, not old. I hope everyone enjoyed the 2006 Creek Festival and Indian Rodeo. Again, I will say that without the tribal employee's volunteering throughout this long hot weekend, this would not have been possible. Many thanks to those who volunteered and worked beyond the normal call to cover for those who did not volunteer.



I just returned last week from Washington D.C. after testifying before senator, John McCain's Indian Affairs Committee. The subject was Indian Housing

programs and the success of this HUD program with different tribal nations. The other tribal leader was chairman of the Flathead Tribe of Montana. Our housing division is improving each month with the much needed changes that effect our individual citizens. I realize that many cannot see these changes because of their individual needs but these changes must benefit our entire nation.
I believe that the administration and national council will continue to be faced with decision to be made that will be both popular and unpopular with many tribal citizens. Speaking for myself, I will do what is best for the entire nation and face the opposition knowing that we cannot please everyone.
The first week in August is our travel week to be in California. I understand that Friday and Saturday is planned for Los Angeles and Sunday we'll be in Stockton, CA. I encourage all Creeks and those who are eligible for creek tribal citizenship to plan on being at one of the meetings. Sev-

eral different departments will be in attendance including the Citizenship Board and Election Board.
The California Creek's are a very active group of people and they don't mind telling you how they feel. About the only benefit they receive is the ability to vote and they are serious about that.
I also urge all citizens of their nation to voice your opinion on the operation of your tribal government. Regardless of who the elected official or officials are, let it be known that you are satisfied or not satisfied.
Today I vetoed two pieces of legislation passed by the national council. A funding of \$22,500.00 to Jubilee Christian Center for paving the parking lot. I consider Pastor Litsey a friend but I am first obligated to our traditional Indian churches who still park in the grass and mud during services.
Until their needs are met I cannot approve outside churches to be funded and neglect our own. The other was

\$52,178.00 for two new handicap vans for Dewar and Twin Hills community. Three months ago the council funded \$50,000.00 and bought Dewar and Twin Hills new vans. Until the first new vans are returned or sold I cannot approve two more for each community. Two vans for each community is not practical or allowed.
I ask the National Council to do their homework before duplicate funding is passed for any purpose.
Today I have selected September 16th for the next summit meeting for all creek churches to be held in the Mound building. All will be notified by my office.
MVTO!

Quote of the Month

"An apology is a good way to have the last word."

Second Opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

I hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday weekend. Forgive me for not being able to meet the deadline for the past Second Opinion. We had a great Festival and as usual, we had to put up with some rain.
Speaking of a Festival, our people in the past gathered to resolve some questions between the Town's. This question was resolved by playing a ball game that was called "the Little Brother of War". Today, we are familiar with the game of Stickball, but there was another game that has been forgotten and the historians call it the "Chunky" game. I would rather pronounce this as "chunge" or "my hand" or "hand". This game was played on a huge raised field that was between the Temple Mound and the Council Mound. The field was elevated about two feet.



the other Ytonaslaq, a person of banked fires. And in his understanding both [are] the names of demons (I feel that this is a misunderstanding),

which they have held as such, especially for Ytonanslalaq.
The latter had an orphaned granddaughter named nico taijulo, woman of the sun. The leading men, who are those who are in charge of the place, the aldermen, as we would say, sent her out for water every day. She became pregnant in this employment and gave birth to a son and hid him among some bushes, where the panther, the bear, and the jay found him. And they brought him to itonanslac, his great-grandfather. And they told him how his granddaughter, Nicotaijulo, had given birth to that child. He then ordered that they should not say anything to anybody or reveal that his granddaughter had given birth. He was given the name Chita. They do not know what it means, nor have I been able to discover it. He was reared to the age of twelve with this name, and [then] it was changed and he was given another, which was Oclafi, Baron of water. This is their way of speaking. He was reared with that name until the twentieth year. And [then] it was taken from him and he was given another, which was eslafiayupi. Neither did they know what this one meant. (They say they are ignorant of it.) The which young man excelled everyone in courage and in his skill with the bow and arrow and in the game of quicio [chunky], which all these

nations play, which is [played] with two long poles about three yardsticks in length and a flat and round stone.
Ochuna Nicoguadca harbored suspicions that young man was the son of Taijulo because his shamans had told him, or, prognosticated, as we would say, that the son to which Nico taijulo gave birth was destined to kill him. And in order [to learn] if perchance this was so, he tried to see if he might kill him. And he set the following there traps for him, so that he might perish in one.
Take note that the Ytonanslaq had commanded his great-grandson that concerning everything that they ordered him to do or that happened, that it was important for him that he should let him know about it before he obeyed it. And, accordingly, [when] he was ordered first that he should go to a certain place where there was a large and very deep sinkhole, that he should obtain flints there for arrowheads, and that they should not be from any other place, the young man went at once and told his great-grandfather of what they were ordering him [to do]. And he said to him, son, this spring is very deep. You cannot obtain the flints from it without risking your life. He gave him some beads [made] of shell and told him to give those beads to a little bird that would bet there diving and ask for the flints from it. And so he went, gave it the beads and asked it for them [the flints]. And it gave them [to him], and he brought them to Ochuna Nicoguadca. He ordered him secondly to go to a certain thicket where he would find a canebrake of bamboo, and that he should cut canes there, and bring them for arrows. The young man went and told his great-grandfather what they had commanded of him. The old man said him, Son, there are many poisonous snakes in that canebrake, you would be running great danger. What you can do is form hoops from the grapevines and carry them along. And when the snake comes, throw the hoop where it is crawling. Then it will chase the hoop and you [can] rush up and cut the canes. With which he did just that. He went, cut his canes and he brought them. Thirdly and lastly, he ordered him to go to a certain place where he would find a nest of eagles in a tree, that he should go and kill the parents and bring back the fledglings. The youth went and informed then old man and he gave him the advice that follows. And it was that he should bring some gourds with him that he might put on his hands and on his head, and, that when he should see the eagle about to bite him, he should let go with the afore-said lariat. And that is what he did. He went and killed the eagles and brought the young ones and presented them to Ochuna Nicoguadea. On seeing that he could not kill him, he arranged that they

should play the ball game. This how it had its beginning. And it is in this fashion.
They send a courier, challenging the place with whom they are going to play, citing the day, and with how many players, let's say forty or fifty more or less, in accord with the people to be had. It has to be [played] at midday or at two in the afternoon, and, in the summer. And in winter they do not play. It is to eleven strikes with the ball that they fire at the pole. And it must be with the foot. And as I understand it, one holds the ball with the hand, lets it fall, and lifting it up with the foot and giving it a kick upwards, one fires the said ball, which will be the size of a musket-ball, [or] a little larger. If it remains on the pole it is worth two. They all crowd together like a clump of pine-cones, naked as when their mother bore them, except for a deerskin breechclout that covers their private parts, and, [with] their hair braided. And a leading man throws the ball in the midst of all of them, who are erect and with their hands raised. It falls into the hand of someone. And they fall upon one another at full tilt. And the last to arrive climb up over their bodies, using them as stairs. And, to enter, others [step on] their faces, heads, or bellies, as they encounter them, taking no notice [of them]
Continued on Page A3

LETTERSTOTHEEDITOR:

Dear Chief Ellis,
I'm George Windes, enrolled member and active on the board of the CMCA. I'd like to express my views on the Cleghorn 'Letter to the Editor' seen recently in the Muscogee Times, our official paper. It was revealing to me that Cleghorn's mean-spirited letter was found next to the fine article written by Chief Berryhill regarding the Rev. John McIntosh. I'm related to John by marriage & honor his memory. He was a lifetime of service and love for Muscogee & other Native peoples. His dedication to others, especially children & elders, is well documented. He was also a pillar to his faith.
Eli Grayson, though young, exhibits many of those same good qualities. He is generous in his gifts of time and assets. He loves the youth & elders. He works to help the citizens enjoy all things Creek, be it music, language, or history (my favorite). Ditto also for genealogy research & tribal

enrollment issues.
Most importantly, he keeps us informed on happenings at headquarters. We need to know so that we can participate, vote intellectually, be informed of opportunities; so we feel part of our beautiful community. In the words of the poet, "No man is an island, no man stands alone...each man a part of the main...each man's death diminishes me, because I'm involved in mankind." I won't go into the issues that Cleghorn harped upon. It's not worth my time. Suffice to say that Grayson is probably the best thing to ever happen to CMCA. He praises others & serves unselfishly.
He speaks highly of you always and of 99% of our tribal leadership. We need a 100 young men like Grayson. What could you as Chief, do with men like Eli scattered everywhere in theMCN?

R e s p e c t f u l l y ,
George Windes
Yorba Linda, California

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month. The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.
The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Standard Class A from Okmulgee, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.
TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7637 or send e-mail to: wmurphy@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

From the desk of the Speaker:

Hensci!

The 32nd Annual Muscogee Creek Nation Festival is over and once again it was a success. Although it rained, it didn't dampen the spirits of those who enjoyed the festivities. Many of our tribal members returned for the Festival to visit their families and friends. In behalf of the National Council, I want to thank those who served on the Festival Committee for their hard work.



The National Council passed a resolution recently to support the efforts of the Native Vote United project. The purpose is to encourage all Native people to register and vote during the upcoming elections. It's been proven the Native vote can make a difference throughout the country. In Oklahoma the upcoming election can be one of the most important elections in terms of issues of interest for Indian Communities and Tribal governments. The primary election in Oklahoma is scheduled for July 25. The next Tribal Summit will be hosted by the Muscogee Creek Nation in the Mound auditorium and is scheduled for July 18. The morning agenda will be for the purpose of meeting candidates for State offices. The resolution passed by our National Council is being used as a blueprint for other tribes in the state to adopt. Rita Williams of the National Council Staff who has served as the lead in this endeavor for the council. Williams has been appointed by the National Congress of American Indians to serve as their lead person for Oklahoma.

As of this writing of the Speaker's column the National Council is holding meetings to discuss a proposed negotiated tobacco compact by Chief Ellis and Oklahoma Governor Brad Henry. Meetings are part of the ongoing negotiations between the two governmental entities. The Tribe's last tobacco compact expired in February of 2005. The Cherokee Nation has been involved with arbitrations while the Osage Nation is in litigation with the state of Oklahoma regarding their respective compacts. Emergency rules passed by the Oklahoma Tax Commission that seems to cloud the issue even more are not being enforced at the present time or until a compact is agreed to.

Since the Tobacco Compact controversy has been a strong topic of discussion politically in Oklahoma it is ironic that it has served as a rallying point for tribes. The Tribal Summits began with a great concern on this issue. However, other issues such as water rights, education, gaming, and health have been discussed at these meeting and once again Tribes are reawakening to unite to have one voice on all issues.

Until next time, Mvto.

Continued from page A2

and aiming kicks without any concern whether it is to the face or to the body, while in other places still others pull at arms or legs with no concern as to whether they may be dislocated or not, while still others have their mouths filled with dirt. When this pileup begins to become untangled, they are accustomed to find four or five stretched out like tuna; over there are others gasping for breath, because, inasmuch as some are wont to swallow the ball, they are made to vomit it up by squeezing their windpipe or by kicks to the stomach. Over there lie others with an arm or leg broken.

In this exercise, the fashion in which I have described it is but a sketch of what took place, because their faces are like a living fire from this exertion and from the midday sun. What damage must not be done to these bodies [from this]! And they resuscitate them by dint of a bucket of water. What kind of a remedy is this, when they have their pores open in this fashion? How can these wretches stay alive thus? Accordingly, they are destroying themselves and this nation is being extinguished. And all this is only a sketch!

TO BE CONTINUED

BUSH ADMINISTRATION PUSHES CLASS II GAMING PROPOSAL

Submitted By Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer
Reprint from Indianz.com

The Bush Administration submitted its controversial Indian gaming proposal to top members of Congress earlier this month in hopes of landing a sponsor.

On June 7, the Department of Justice sent letters to House Speaker Dennis Hastert (R-Illinois) and Vice President Dick Cheney, who serves as president of the Senate. William E. Moschella, the assistant attorney general in charge of legislative affairs, asked the leaders for a chance to present the proposal.

"I am transmitting here with a legislative proposal relating to the use of gambling devices as technologic aids in Class II gaming in Indian Country," the identical letters stated.

To the administration, the bill clarifies a key issue: What is the difference between an electronic bingo machine and a slot machine? Officials say the line has been blurred in a way that threatens the future of the \$20 billion Indian gaming industry.

But to tribes, the legislation represents an attack on their economic gains. They argue it will stifle technological innovations that have

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE MAY 1, 2006, EMERGENCY SESSION.

MAY 1, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WAS: REPRESENTATIVE **LARRY BIBLE** ON LEAVE FOR 6-8 WEEKS; **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **CHERRAH RIDGE QUIETT**, TULSA DISTRICT; AND **PAULA WILLITS**, TULSA DISTRICT;

SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-0-0) **NCA 06-084**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HEALTH CONTRACT PROGRAM TO FUND PAYMENT FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES CHARGES FOR MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZENS - SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$500,000.00);

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-0-0) **NCA 06-088**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT FOR SUMMER 2006 TRIBAL GRANTS PROGRAM AND SPRING 2006 INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$300,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **TOM PICKERING** EXCUSED. THEREFORE, TWENTY-ONE PRESENT AND FIVE ABSENT.

- APPROVED (20-0-0) **TR 06-055**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING TO UNDERTAKE, MANAGE AND CONTROL THE PROGRAMS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CREEK NATION OF OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**

- APPROVED (20-0-0) **NCA 06-070**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 35, CHAPTER 6, "SCHOOL CLOTHING PROGRAM," SUB-CHAPTER 1. "INCOME SPECIFIC ELIGIBILITY" SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. CALDWELL**; **L. WIND** (\$1,279,486.00)

- APPROVED (20-0-0) **NCA 06-092**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TITLE 24 AND REPEALING CERTAIN SECTIONS TO ELIMINATE THE HOUSING AUTHORITY SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**

- APPROVED (12-8-0) **NCA 06-094**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO PURCHASE APOTHECARY JARS WITH THE SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND STATE SENATE AND THE GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$1,406.54)

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT; **TRAVIS SCOTT**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **ROBERT JONES**, OKMULGEE; **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE; **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE; **RON CLEGHORN**, TULSA; AND **SAM ALEXANDER**, TULSA.

MAY 20, REGULAR SESSION

ABSENT WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, MCINTOSH; AND **LARRY BIBLE**, TULSA; SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) **TR 06-038**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE OKMULGEE INDIAN SENIOR

CITIZENS GROUP TO USE THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FOR THE PRODUCTION AND SALE OF FLAGS AND TRIBAL TAGS SPONSOR: **BO JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **P. BEAVER**; **E. LAGRONE**

- APPROVED TO RETURN TO COMMITTEE (23-0-0) **TR 06-045**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH **NAOMI CONNELL** FOR THE NATION'S POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF THE ALLOTMENT OF **EMMA JOHNSON HATCHER** FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) **TR 06-051**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION COMMITTING TEN ACRES OF TRIBAL LAND FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A TRIBAL COMMUNITY HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITY SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **R. BERRYHILL**; **J. GREENE**; **D. HARJO**; **J. JENNINGS**; **T. YAHOLA**; **R. JONES**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-054**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOMES POLICY OF THE HOUSING DIVISION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AS ADOPTED BY TR 05-033 AND AMENDED BY TR 05-169 SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-056**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION PROVIDING FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A TRIBAL COMMUNITY HIGHER EDUCATION BUILDING THROUGH HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT TO BE CONSTRUCTED ON TRIBAL LANDS SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-057**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION IMPLEMENTING THE ANIMAL PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE 4-H PROGRAM SPONSOR: **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-058**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE ENDORSEMENT OF AN "INDIAN EDUCATION ACT" RELATED TO THE EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN CHILDREN IN OKLAHOMA SCHOOLS SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-059**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE DEFINITION OF INCOME FOR ALL HOUSING PROGRAMS ADMINISTERED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

- POSTPONED (23-0-0) **TR 06-060**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF TWO GAMING OPERATION AUTHORITY BOARD MEMBERS AT THE EXPIRATION OF THEIR TERMS OF OFFICE SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**; CO-SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

- APPROVED (22-1-0) **TR 06-061**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF ROBERT HUFFT TO SERVE ON THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD SPONSOR: **SAMUEL ALEXANDER**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **B. FIFE**; **R. CLEGHORN**; **E. LAGRONE**; **C. QUIETT**; **R. BARNETT**;

VOTING NO WERE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER DISTRICT;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-062**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **JOANN F. DEERE** TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

CITIZENSHIP BOARD SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) **TR 06-063**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMIT WITH THE OKMULGEE COUNTY 4-H PROGRAM FOR THE OPERATION OF A TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES**; CO-SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-064**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE PROVISION OF HOUSING SERVICES TO NON-LOW-INCOME NATIVE AMERICANS TO THE EXTENT ALLOWABLE BY NAHASDA TITLE II, SECTION 202 SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-066**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON THE OKLAHOMA TRIBAL VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION COUNCIL BROCHURE SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **TR 06-067**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NATION, M & M ENERGY, LLC AND SEMGROUP, LP SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**;

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **TR 06-070**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH FITCH RATINGS TO PROVIDE A PUBLIC CREDIT RATING SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-071**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE TWO AGREEMENTS WITH B & B FIREWORKS FOR THE OPERATION OF A TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL LAND SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**; CO-SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES**;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **TR 06-072**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE TWO AGREEMENTS WITH B & B FIREWORKS FOR THE OPERATION OF A TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL LAND SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE**; CO-SPONSOR **ROBERT JONES**;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-027**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SAPULPA INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A VAN WITH HANDICAP ACCESSIBILITY SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$37,000.00);

- APPROVED (23-0-0-) **NCA 06-065**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SPONSOR THE CONFERENCE ON REDUCING HEALTH DISPARITIES IN AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES BY PREVENTING DIABETES THROUGHOUT THE LIFE CYCLE SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER** (\$40,589.20);

- APPROVED (18-5-0) **NCA 06-078**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-

SEE SESSION - B6

been part of their industry since the first bingo halls were opened more than 20 years ago.

Either way, the "Gambling Devices Act of 2006" would bring about some major changes to Indian Country. It comes amid two other viable proposals—including one that has already been sent to the Senate Floor—that place curbs on the expansion of tribal gaming.

At issue are two classes of games that are defined by the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. Class II games like bingo can be operated free of state control while Class III games like slot machines a state-negotiated compact.

Some negotiave refused to negotiate such compacts or have placed their own restrictions on the use of slot machines. Many demand a share of revenues from lucrative Class II games. TRIBAL SUMMIT IV:

At a recent Tribal Summit meeting held at the Sac & Fox Nation, Nelson Johnson, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Gaming Commissioner, who was part of the Indian gaming panel addressing the proposed regulations, stated "this attempt would erode tribal sovereignty and prevent economic development." "Tribes have had very little input and we had better be prepared to enter into battle, with all of our letters and consultations with NIGC, I believe we will still end up in court." Geoffrey Standing Bear, Attorney, and panelist

commented, "This will be the most radical setback in 24 years, more than IGRA itself, this will change the way we do class II gaming, we are looking to Tribal leaders for their authority. Gaming is not granted by the United States Congress, its an inherent sovereignty right." Brian Foster, OIGA, panelist added that tribal leaders need to stand up for their sovereignty.

NATIVE VOTE UNITED CAMPAIGN:

by Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer

Tribes in Oklahoma are beginning to unite together in the upcoming elections. They are looking at candidates who will be supportive of Native American issues and most importantly tribal sovereignty. The lack of true and meaningful consultations with our state and national legislatures have not been happening with tribes. The political arena at these levels have not been closely watched by our tribes. We are now finding ourselves some allies and becoming educated as to what avenues we can become strong in and one



is, our vote. But, we have to become aggressive and active and that is what one little community is doing. Hanna Indian Community will be hosting a candidates forum for all those running for public office in McIntosh District, on Friday July 21, 2006. They are inviting all Tribal Elected Officials, citizens, and interested parties to attend. They are serving potluck at 6:30 a.m. and at 7 p.m the forum will convene. The Native Vote United will also be present.



For more information, you may call Stella Simpson 918-657-2687 or Susie Harjo 918-657-2641. Remember to vote on Tuesday, July 25th 2006.

Native Vote United Meets with tribes:

Tuesday evening, July 27-2006 the Native Vote United meet with tribes from the Ponca Nation, Cherokee Nation, Cheyenne Arapaho Nation, Volunteers, and Oklahoma Democratic Network to come up with some strategy on the grassroots campaign.

For more information on the Native Vote United contact: Rita Williams @ 918-758-1410
photos by Rita Williams

Veteran Affairs Service Office taking care of business by taking care of Veterans

OKMULGEE — The Veteran Affairs Service Office, led by Ken Davis, has achieved a triple crown in its service to Muscogee veterans. In January of 2005 Davis predicted that the triple crown would be achieved by September of 2007, but it was achieved on June 14, 2006.

The first crown is that 100 veterans have been assisted in receiving what they are due by the Veteran Affairs Service Office. The second crown is that over 1.2 million dollars (\$1,201,632) has been paid to veterans by December of 06. The third



crown is that in calendar year 2006 the residuals will see over one million dollars paid out (\$1,059,632). All of the funds received by the veterans are tax free. The ages of the veterans range from 22 years old to 96.

So far Davis has filed 174 claims with the V.A. of which 120 have been awarded, 11 were denied, and 43 are still pending. Of the 174 claims, 43% have been on behalf of combat veterans.

Davis said that he's not done yet though, "Our veterans that have been helped are only the tip of the iceberg." When asked if the V.A. worked well with him Davis had this to say about the V.A. "The V.A. has been fair on rating our vets. It's the veteran having to prove to the V.A., not the V.A. trying to disprove the veteran."

More American Indians opening businesses

By Ja'Rena Lunsford
Originally printed in the Oklahoman.

Oklahoma has the second-largest number of American Indian-owned businesses in the nation, according to a report released Tuesday (June 20) by the U.S. Census Bureau.

The report, based on data collected in 2002, stated that nearly 6 percent of Oklahoma's 291,611 businesses are owned by American Indians, proof to many business leaders that there is a shift in how American Indians are doing business.

"No longer are Indian people just known for beadwork and things like that," said Bill Johnnie, 2006 State Board President of the American Indian Chamber of Commerce of Oklahoma. "We are very much a product of this century."

Valerie Strang, survey statistician for the U.S. Census Bureau's Economic Census branch, said the category that includes American Indian and Alaska Native-owned businesses generated \$26.9 billion nationwide. The top five states were California, Oklahoma, Texas, New York and Florida and the top industries were construction and retail trade.

Phil G. Busey, chairman and president of The Busey Group of Cos. in Oklahoma City, said government contracting is helping minority-owned businesses grow.

Maj. Melinda Morgan, spokeswoman for the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center at Tinker Air Force Base, said 1 percent of Tinker's contracts go to American Indian businesses.

"I think there is finally becoming an awareness of the importance of individually-owned Indian businesses," Busey said.

Casino industry growth benefits communities

Originally printed by Muskogee Phoenix and written by Liz McMahan.

Oklahoma's casinos are big business and getting bigger.

Besides raking in profits for the tribes

that operate them, casinos are creating hundreds of new jobs for Oklahomans.

The Cherokee Nation has grown from 500 casino employees in 2004 to about 2,800 today, said Mike Miller, spokesman for Cherokee Nation Enterprises. The annual payroll has grown from \$39.5 million to \$69 million.

The Creek Nation had about 1,300 employees last year, said Nelson Johnson, Muscogee (Creek) Nation gaming commissioner. Their payroll was about \$32 million.

The Creek Nation casino in Muskogee has about 265 of those workers, with an annual payroll of \$6 million, said Farrell Kaaihue, manager of the facility.

"Probably the most successful thing we have done is we have reduced our unemployment rate somewhat, particularly in our urban areas like Tulsa and Muskogee," Johnson said.

Both the Creek Nation and Cherokee Nation give preference to tribal members in particular and also to Native Americans.

But in the smaller communities, there are a good number of non-Indians now employed in the casinos, Johnson said.

Casinos benefit workers, communities

Besides the wages, employees receive good fringe benefits, Miller said. For example, most waitresses in the public sector don't have health insurance. Those working full-time for the casinos receive good wages and have very affordable health insurance, as do all tribal employees.

Health insurance is a fringe benefit workers in the smaller communities have never had, Johnson said.

"It's quite a substantial jump in quality of life for those people," he said.

The communities with casinos also have benefited, he said.

"The restaurants, hotels, gas stations — this is a windfall for them," he said.

Besides the money from employee paychecks, businesses in the community also benefit.

"Most of our purchases are from local businesses," Johnson said.

Both tribes are putting money into growth of their casinos, but they also are investing money back into tribal governments.

"It goes into education, housing and health care gets a lot. It goes into a lot of governmental programs and services, roads included," Miller said.

Johnson said money from the Creek operations goes into the government and also helps in social services.

"We just opened a new \$17 million health clinic in Coweta. A substantial amount of that funding came from our gaming revenues," he said.

The tribe also has purchased vehicles for its communities and to serve tribal members, he said.

"It (gaming) has improved the quality of life for a lot of our senior citizens," he said.

Casino industry continues to grow

Growth in the casino business isn't slowing down any.

The Cherokees have casinos at Catoosa, West Siloam Springs, Fort Gibson, Tahlequah, Roland and Claremore. They will open a casino in Sallisaw at noon Wednesday (June 21). They also own three hotels, two golf courses, three service stations and several gift shops.

The Creek Nation has casinos at Muskogee, Eufaula, Checotah, Okmulgee, Bristow, Okemah, Duck Creek and Tulsa.

And neither is ready to stop growing.

The Muskogee casino hopefully will be expanded next year to make room for more tables and more machines. Eventually, there could be a hotel built at the Muskogee site, Kaaihue said.

The Creek Nation is building an entirely new casino building just south of its present Tulsa casino. Within two years, they hope to have it and a hotel completed.

The hotel operation at the Catoosa casino has been extremely successful, Miller said. It is packed with guests seven days per week.

"The demand is exceeding our supply," he said.

Casino guests come from near, and far

During the week, most of the guests come in with conventions and other group meetings. On weekends, the guests are just visitors.

"More than half of the people who stay in our hotel that we know where they are from, are from out of state," Miller said.

There's a need for more rooms and larger conference rooms so that larger conferences and conventions can be booked for Catoosa, he said.

"We own a lot of land where we are. We have a lot of parking lots and some fields. We haven't nailed down yet how we are going to meet that demand," he said.

A decision on expansion should come within the next year, he said.

Tulsa Casino Promotions:

The \$250,000 American Dream

Tuesdays at 6 p.m., 14 Additional Keys Awarded July 25

The time you have all been waiting for is here. The American Dream will finally become a reality to one person on July 25. A brand new house in south Tulsa, a 2006 Hummer H3, and \$10,000 in cash could be yours just by stopping by Guest Services and registering for the American Dream. Someone will win this, and there's no reason it can't be you. Every Tuesday through July 18, two winners will be awarded \$200 every hour from 6 pm to 9 pm. At 10 pm one person will win \$400 and a key that could open The American Dream home. A key will also be given out by each of the following radio stations: KRMG, KWEN, KRAV, and KJSR, so listen for your chance to win. On July 25, the day of the finale, half-hour cash drawings will occur from 10 am until 7:30, just prior to the American Dream Giveaway. At 8 pm on that night 14 additional keys will be awarded that could potentially open the door to The American Dream. Following the American Dream Giveaway 10 drawings will be held for 10 consolation prizes provided by Cox Radio.

Take it to the Lake

Wednesdays starting at 6 pm now through August 2, 5 Additional Keys Awarded.

Guys, finish up your summer a winner in a brand new 2006 Tahoe Q4 Sport Boat! You can do this by entering "Take it to the Lake" and earning a chance to win this great boat which will be given away on August 2. All you need to do is stop by Guest Services on Wednesday nights starting at 6 pm and swipe your Players Club card. Half hour cash drawings will begin at 7 pm and will continue until 10 pm. At 10 pm two guys will be selected as that night's key winners and will both take home \$500 and a key that could possibly start the 2006 Tahoe Q4 Sport Boat. You can also earn extra entries by winning a jackpot of \$200 or more on any VGT machine. Also on August 2, we will qualify five additional guys starting at 6 pm for keys that could start the Tahoe Q4 Sport Boat!

Ladies, It's All About You

We've sent you to Miami and LA, and now it's your turn to escape to Broadway and Times Square in New York! This is your last chance to get away from everything and relax during "Ladies, It's All About You." One lucky lady and a friend will win \$5,000 to shop, an amazing trip to a spa, and a stay at a great hotel. All you have to do is sign up at Guest Services each Monday starting at 6 pm for half-hour cash drawings beginning at 7 pm. The drawings will continue each half hour until 10 pm when two ladies will win \$500 and a certificate to return for the final grand prize drawing on July 31 for a chance to win the trip to New York. Extra entries may also be earned by winning a jackpot of \$10 or more on any World Touch game. Don't forget, we're giving away five additional grand prize certificates starting at 6 pm on July 31 for a chance at the New York getaway!

Seniors Wake up and Win

Seniors, rise and shine at Creek Nation Casino Mondays and Tuesdays in July. From 7 am to 11 am, the first 500 seniors will receive \$5 match play on any Rocket machine and enjoy complimentary coffee and

donuts. What better way to start the day than with Creek Nation Casino's Wake Up and Win promotion?

Mid Summer Night's Dream

Having trouble sleeping? Or are you a night owl? Head down to Creek Nation Casino for our late night promotion! Swipe in at Guest Services starting at 11 pm every Sunday through Wednesday for \$150 drawings from 12 am – 3 am and a final drawing at 4 am for \$400! (Sunday – Wednesday Through July 31, 11 pm – 4 am)

Table Games Promotions

For the Love of Blackjack

The blackjack pit is the only place to play for \$250 cash drawings every half hour Monday through Wednesday from noon to 6 pm. If that's not enough, on Sundays we bump the drawings up to \$500 with three winners every hour from noon to 6 pm! All you have to do to earn your shot at winning some of this cash is to gain an entry into the drawings by receiving a suited blackjack of hearts or buying in \$100 at any table in the pit. You may gain entries 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Every time a suited blackjack of hearts is awarded, that player receives a \$10 bonus and everyone else at the table earns our famous Envy Bonus of \$5.

TEXAS HOLD'EM PROGRESSIVE BAD BEAT JACKPOTS

Three separate jackpots will be paid on aces full of jacks losing to a better hand.

Watch the jackpots grow daily. Jackpot currently at \$50,000! Several people have already walked away with thousands, come win your share.

Winning hand may collect one jackpot per win

TEXAS HOLD'EM PROGRESSIVE HIGH HANDS

The following High Hands will increase by \$100 each day: Four of a Kind, Straight Flush, and Royal Flush. (24 hours a day, 7 days a week)

Poker Tournaments

Ladies Night
No Limit Texas Hold'em
Mondays at 7 pm - \$30 Buy in

Men's Night
The Big One
No Limit Texas Hold'em
Wednesdays at 7 pm- \$115 Buy in

The Big Bounty
Poker Tournament
Thursdays & Sundays at 7 pm - \$115 Buy in Daily River Showdown
No Limit Texas Hold'em
Every day at 9 am.- \$30 Buy in

Request for Muscogee Business information

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is accepting information on Muscogee owned and / or operated businesses and Muscogee business owners. If you, or someone you know, owns or operates a business and is a Muscogee Citizen write in and let us know about them and help us let everyone else know about them as well. It doesn't matter if their business is a multinational corporation or doing bead work and selling it out of their house, all Muscogee owned or operated businesses are applicable.

This is a service of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, there is no cost to our citizens for this.

Information on businesses will be ran as space permits and on a first come first served basis. Pictures will be allowed if space permits.

Please send information to: Muscogee Creek Nation Communications Department, ICO: Joshua Slane, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447 or e-mail the stories to jslane@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. If you would like more information about what you can submit, please call Josh at 918- 732 - 7638. Mvto.

HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

MCN Division of Health Administration

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health offers a wide range of medical and lifestyle advancements within the boundaries of the Creek Nation for its citizens. The Division of Health can offer extensive and thorough care to each citizen through the practice of qualified medical professionals and caring staff.

Tobacco Prevention Program
Program Director,
Cynthia Coachman
Grand Street, Okmulgee
918-756-6231

Diabetes Prevention Program
Johnnie Brassuell
Diabetes Coordinator,
1801 East 4th, Okmulgee
918-756-3334 extension 248

Behavioral Health Services
Clinical Director,
Dailey Tearl LMFT, LADC
100 West 7th Street, Okmulgee
918-758-1910

Contract Health Services
Laura Mackey, Program Manager,
206 South Grand Street, Okmulgee
918-758-2710

Okemah Hospital
309 North 14th Street, Okemah
918-623-1424

Women Infant & Children (WIC)
Misty Rains RD/LD, WIC Director,
Hwy 75 and Loop 56 , Okmulgee
918-758-2722

Vocational Rehabilitation Program
Mary Lee, Program Coordinator,
213 N. 2nd, Okemah
918-623-1197

CHR Program
Cyndi Gilks, Manager
700 N. Mission, Okmulgee
918-756-1941

Elderly Nutrition Program
Steve Wilson, Manager
1801 East 4th
Lackey Hall, Okmulgee
918-758-2727

Care Giver Program
Teresa Jennings
1801 East 4th, Okmulgee
918-758-2727

Eufaula Health Center
800 Forest Ave, Eufaula
918-689-2547

Okmulgee Health Center
1313 East 20th, Okmulgee
918-758-1926

Sapulpa Health Center
1125 E. Cleveland, Sapulpa
918-224-9310

Koweta Health Facility
31870 East Hwy 51, Coweta
918-279-3200

Contract Health Services provides Vision Program to citizens

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Contract Health Office is accepting requests for vision applications. For Native Americans ages 50 and over, and based on income guidelines. Applicant must reside within the Muscogee (Creek) boundaries.

The Vision Program is a Tribal Program that provides assistance to Creek Citizens in obtaining vision examination and eyeglasses. This program is designed to assist the Creek Citizens and is not intended to cover the total cost of vision assistance and related expenses.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Vision Program Guidelines: Tribal Citizenship card is required, applicant may receive assistance every two years, applicant must use contracted Optometrist or any Tribal / Indian Health Facility Optometrist, each individual is eligible to receive up to \$180. The program will pay \$55 towards an eye exam and \$125 toward lenses and frames. Any amount exceeding \$180 will be the responsibility of the applicant.

For more information call Flora Jackson at (918)758-2710 Ext. 225 .

West Nile Virus precautions in Creek communities

Health Release regarding West Nile Virus (WNV) from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MCNHS).

The risk of contracting or being exposed to the WNV is extremely rare, but is a public health concern in the event it does occur. This is an informative article on the WNV, to answer some common questions and to increase the awareness and understanding of our citizens on this virus.

What Is West Nile Virus? West Nile virus (WNV) is a potentially serious illness. Experts believe WNV is established as a seasonal epidemic in North America that flares up in the summer and continues into the fall. This fact sheet contains important information that can help you recognize and prevent West Nile virus.

What Are the Symptoms of WNV? **Serious Symptoms in a Few People.** About one in 150 people infected with WNV will develop severe illness. The severe symptoms can include high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness and paralysis. These symptoms may last several weeks, and neurological effects may be permanent. **Milder Symptoms in Some People.** Up to 20 percent of the people who become infected will display symptoms which can include fever, headache, and body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. Symptoms can last for as short as a few days, though even healthy people have been sick for several weeks. **No Symptoms in Most People.** Approximately 80 percent of people (about four out of five) who are infected with WNV will not show any symptoms at all, but there is no way



Transplants, and Mother-to-Child. In a very small number of cases, WNV also has been spread through blood transfusions, organ transplants, breastfeeding and even during pregnancy from mother to baby. Not through touching. WNV is not spread through casual contact such as touching or kissing a person with the virus.

How Soon Do Infected People Get Sick? People typically develop symptoms between three and 14 days after they are bitten by the infected mosquito.

What should I do if I think I have WNV? Milder WNV illness improves on its own, and people do not necessarily need to seek medical attention for this infection though they may choose to do so. If you develop symptoms of severe WNV illness, such as unusually severe headaches or confusion, seek medical attention immediately. Severe WNV illness usually requires hospitalization. Pregnant women and nursing mothers are encouraged to talk to their doctor if they develop symptoms that could be WNV.

How Is WNV Infection Treated?

There is no specific treatment for WNV infection. In cases with milder symptoms, people experience symptoms such as fever and aches that pass on their own. In more severe cases, people usually need to go to the hospital where they can receive supportive treatment. What Can I Do to Prevent WNV? The easiest and best way to avoid WNV is to prevent mosquito bites.

- When you are outdoors, use insect repellents containing an EPA-registered insect repellent. Follow the directions on the package.
- Many mosquitoes are most active at dusk and dawn. Be sure to use insect repellent and wear long sleeves and pants at these times or consider staying indoors during these hours.
- Make sure you have good screens on your windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out.
- Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels. Change the water in pet dishes and replace the water in bird baths weekly. Drill holes in tire swings so water drains out. Keep children’s wading pools empty and on their sides when they aren’t being used.

What Else Should I Know? **If you find a dead bird:** Don’t handle the body with your bare hands. Contact your local health department for instructions on reporting and disposing of the body. They may tell you to dispose of the bird after they log your report.

In conclusion, the risk of contracting or being exposed to the WNV is extremely rare, but is a public health concern in the event it does occur. If you have any other questions or concerns, more information can be found at WWW.CDC.GOV., or your local health agencies. The MCNHS would like to say *MVTO*, for allowing us to share this information with you.

Koweta Indian Health Facility officially opens in Coweta

COWETA — The new Koweta Indian Health Facility held its Grand Opening ceremonies on June 15, 2006 with over 300 people partaking in the festivities. The actual process for obtaining the Facility started in September of 2002. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation competed nationally with other tribes to joint venture with Indian Health Service for a new health facility to be located in the under-served area of Coweta, Oklahoma. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation was one of two tribes nationwide to successfully obtain this joint venture with Indian Health Service. This joint venture required the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to borrow up to 18 million dollars to build the facility. The Legislative and Executive Branches along with the Division of Health Administration worked hand in hand to make this project possible. The actual groundbreaking and construction of the new facility began in December of 2004, with a certificate of substantial completion issued on May 1, 2006. With its first patient being seen on June 26, this state of the art 60,000 square foot facility is now open and seeing patients on a daily basis. The clinic offers the following services for all eligible Native Americans: Family Medical, Pediatrics, Dental, Optometry, and Radiology, with Mammogra-



phy & Ultra Sound, Pharmacy, Diabetes Program, Behavioral Health, Physical Therapy, Audiology, WIC and CHR services. While not available just yet, the clinic hopes to offer CT services in the near future. It is estimated that the clinic will see and average of 30,000 patients per year.

Currently the clinic has 95 employees and will have around 120 employees when fully staffed. Current facility hours are 7:30am to 5:00pm. The Health System Administrator for the Facility is Bert Robison and the Clinical Director is Dr. Lawrence Vark DO and the Dental Officer is Dr. Tom Hix. The completion of this magnificent facility is a testament to progress within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. With the services offered, this facility will help to enhance the quality of health care for all Tribal Citizens within this region. For more information call (918)279-3200.

Creek Nation Casino supports responsible gaming

Creek Nation Casino proudly offers their guests a fun, friendly entertainment experience. All guests are encouraged to enjoy the exciting casino action while staying within their limits. The casino recognizes that problem gambling is a serious issue affecting millions of adults each year, and we are committed to promoting and supporting responsible gaming behavior in our casinos through ongoing education and awareness among our guests and employees. If you are concerned that you may have a gambling problem, please call (800)-522-4700.

There is no way to predict who will develop a gambling problem. Adults of any age, gender, race, religion, or status may suffer from this often hidden illness. The good news is that once identified, the problem can be successfully treated. The National Council on Problem Gambling lists the following as signs of problem gambling behavior: Gambling longer than planned; Of-

ten gambling until last dollar is gone; Losing sleep over thoughts of gambling; Using income or savings to gamble while letting bills go unpaid; Making repeated, unsuccessfull attempts to stop gambling; Breaking the law or considered breaking the law to finance gambling; Borrowing money to finance gambling; Feeling depressed or suicidal because of gambling losses; Being remorseful after gambling; Gambling to get money to meet financial obligations.

If you are concerned that you or someone you know may have a gambling problem, please call the confidential 24 hour toll free Problem Gambling Helpline. Experienced counselors are on hand to answer your questions and provide information on available treatment and support resources in your area. www.ncpgambling.org.

Housing policy changes help improve services

With the passage of the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) tribal governments are taking a more active role in the planning of housing programs and how their program policies are implemented. Policy changes are put in place to help better serve our tribal citizens and hopefully speed up services to those who are eligible and in need.

A key policy change affecting the Muscogee (Creek) housing includes the modification of the applicant preference ranking system for all housing programs. Families will be selected for services using the following criteria with preference given according to the following list.

(1) Eligible Creek citizens who are involuntarily displaced by government agencies or natural disasters, including fires.

(2) 4/4 degree of blood Creek large families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled handicapped.

(3) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped 1/2 degree or more.

(4) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped less than 1/2 degree.

(5) Single 4/4 degree Creek Citizen

(6) Single less than 4/4 degree Creek Citizen

(7) Other Indian Tribes

The above criteria will afford eligible Creek Citizens who are involuntarily displaced first preference with large 4/4 degree of blood Creek families secondary preference and large families ½ degree or more third preference in the selection process.

Other program policy changes include:

(1) Families who carry insurance on their privately owned home and are qualified for the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program may be assisted with the cost of a deductible in the event of an insurance claim.

(2) Emergency repair of privately owned homes may now allow assistance for the installation of all utility services for families who have purchased a home (i.e. electric, plumbing related, gas/propane, water and solid waste disposal).

(3) The Homeownership program will now allow any elderly living outside the Muscogee (Creek) boundary to apply to the program. If the applicant is already a private homeowner they will be required to dispose of their home and be willing to receive a home within the boundaries of the Creek Nation.

ALTERNATIVE HOUSING PROGRAM
HELPING THOSE WITH THE GREATEST NEED

In the past, many of our elderly Creek citizens applied to the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes program only to find that due to the poor condition of their home repairs would not be feasible.

Previously Housing’s only options to the elderly homeowners were to apply for the Lease with Option to Purchase Program (Homeownership) or the Rental Program. Making payments on a home or renting was not an option for most elderly who many are on fixed incomes.

For this reason the Alternative Housing Program was created. The program offers Elderly Creek Citizens over the age of 62 and who have qualified for the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program a replacement home as a grant which means the cost of the house does not have to be repaid.

The program has completed 13 houses and plans 18 more by the end of the year.



Loreen Sumka, front, (LtoR) Rev. Sidney Lee, Ron Qualls, Housing Director, Chief A.D. Ellis



(LtoR) Tom Pickering, McIntosh Dist. Council Rep., Delilah Charles, David Proctor, Const. Services Mgr., Anthony Notaro, McIntosh Dist. Council Rep.



(L to R) Eddie LaGrone, Muskogee Dist. Council Rep., George Redeagle



(L to R) Johnnie Greene, Wagoner Dist. Council Rep, Mr. & Mrs. Solomon Wilson, Jr.

“I would like to thank the chief and everyone involved with helping me recieve this house.”
Loreen Sumka, Alternative Housing Recipient

“This is a dream come true. I just can’t thank everyone enough.”
Delilah Charles, Alternative Housing Recipient

“I just want to thank everyone.”
George Redeagle, Alternative Housing Recipient

“These are the citizens we urgently need to help. They are elderly, on fixed income, often handicapped, and still they don’t ask for much. If the tribe can make their lives a little better that’s what we should be about.”
Chief A.D. Ellis

“The alternative housing program is an invovative idea towards helping our elderly.”
Eddie Lagrone, Muskogee District Representative

“I feel very gratified by the program when I see our Creek Elderly finally provided ad-equate housing. Because of the full-blood preference requirement most of the recipients thus far are elderly full-bloods who desperately need better housing”
David Proctor, Manager of Construction Services

Note: All recipents had applied and were approved for the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program and were over the age of 62.

COMMUNITY SHIELD
PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division/Authority is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amer-ind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117



Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:
MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING

- To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).
- Be a first time home buyer.
 - Live within the state of Oklahoma.
 - Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/ Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
 - Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
 - Be 18 years or older.
 - Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
 - Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
 - Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
 - Preference given to Creek Citizens.
- Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

Head Start accepting applications
OKMULGEE — Creek Nation Head Start is currently accepting applications for enrollment. You will need the following items turned in with your application: state certified birth certificate, immunization record, social security card, verification of income, and, if applicable, CDIB (Certificate of Degree of Indian Blood) card. Your child will also need a dental and a physical completed. All races and ethnicities may apply.

Creek Nation Head Start offers full day services for children 3-5 years of age. Children must turn age 3 by September 1st. Other services provided include: meals, health and social services, speech testing, individualized teaching services for children with special needs, and parent involvement. Transportation services may be available to you.

You may visit us at 302 B. Street in Checotah to get an application. For more information call 918-473-0605.

Scott reunion
MCALESTER - The descendants of Samuel Scott and Nancy McIntosh Scott or Daniel Scott, John Scott, Benny Scott, Hepsey Scott Lewis are going to have the 16th Annual Scott Family Reunion on June 17, 2006at J.I. Stipe Recreation Center located at 801 North 9th McAlester, Oklahoma from 11:30 a.m. The men's horseshoe tournament will be continued this year. The theme is Mardi Gras. It will be greatly appreciated if each family would bring a covered dish, salad, fruit or desert for the noon meal. The meats and drinks will be supplied. For more information call: Barbara Lara Robertson (817) 633-7432 or (817) 373-3675 or e-mail b2robinson1@AOL.com.

Honoring veterans
SEQUOYAH - The Sequoyah Alumni Association is going to honor all of our veterans that were killed in Action. The Sequoyah Alumni Association would like to do this in August during the dedication of the facility. Contact Donnie Bevenue at (918) 224-8479 for more information.

Update adresses
Continued from June's issue are the following TribalRegistered voters are urged to contact the Creek Nation Election Board to update their address. Call 1-800-482-1979 or 918- 732-7684, 7685 and 7631.
Burgess, Raymond L.
Burgess, Robert C.
Burgess III, Senora K.
Burkhart (Robison), Lea
Burley (Byard), Lisa
Burns, Amelia J.
Burris, Curtis W.
Burson, Connie
Brutnett, James L.
Burton, Jimmy L.
Bush, Marilyn G
Bushouse, Pamela J.
Bushyhead, Kathleen
Butler, Randall G
Byrd, Belinda I.
Byrd, Gnetta F.
Byrd (Watson), Wanda
Cable (Vail), Jo Ann
Cadion, Jacqueline E.
Caesar, Alphonso
Cain (Plum), Tracia A.
Caldwell, Jerra G
Calvert, Michael T.
Camp, Bonita J.
Campbell, Clay I.
Campbell, Ian M.
Campbell, Shelley D.
Canard, Curtis L.
Canard, Roger V.
Carden, Monte D.
Carey, John C.
Carman SR., Lonnie C.
Carpenter, Jeanie
Carpenter, Michael
Carpenter, Robert D.
Carr, George W.
Carr, Lenayle D.
Carroll, Stacie P.
Carson, Dana W.
Carter, Delores
Carter, Mable I.
Carter, Michelle R.
Cater, Richard L.
Cater, William B.
Case, Anthony W.
Case, Maurice W.
Casey, Leonard W.
Casey, Pat R.
Casey, Patricia A.
Castle, Betty J.
Castro, Larry D.
Catland, Barbara J.
Caudill, Peter I.
Caywood, Melissa A.
Chalakee JR., Billy W.
Chalakee, Theron L.

Chalakee, Tommy L.
Chandler, Jimmy L.
Chandler, Linda P.
Chaney, Christopher R.
Chaney, Jackson S.
Chase, Walton C.
Chastain, Jason A.
Chastain, Michelle N.
Checotah, Benjamin G
Checotah, Orvilon
Checotah JR., Roman
Cheote, Johnnie L.
Checote, Sky C.
Cheek, Dawn A.
Childers, Daniel C.
Childers, Mark S.
Childress (Tiger), Lucy
Chissoe, Michele M.
Christian, Etta M.
Christiansen, Michael R.
Christiansen, Patrick L.
Christy (Bethal), Linda
Chumpco, Sammy D.
Clark, Bessie A.
Clark, Billye J.
Clark, Penny J.
Clark (Hardin), Roxanne
Clark, Sheril A.
Clark (Fisher), Tamra
Clary (Berryhill), Ruth
Clayton, Kevin E.
Clayton, Ronald J.
Cleary (Logan), Regina
Clements (Brown), Lois
Clemmer, Elizabeth J.
Clester, Linda L.
Clifton, Debra K.
Clifton, Dianna L.
Cline, Shirley A.
Clinton, Gary G
Cloud (Holuby), Leah
Cloud, Mark D.
Cloud, Mark S.
Cloud, Rodney E.
Clubb, Alice A.
Coachman, Agnes
Coachman, Brenda S.
Coachman, Charles M.
Coachman, David J.
Coachman, James P.
Coachman, Joseph D.
Coachman, Willa M.
Cobb, Youvon L.
Cocharan, Brenda K.
Cody (Rose), Jenny
Coffin (Brooks), Lolita
Coffman, Karen F.
Coker, Katrina M.
Coker JR., Thomas e.
Colbert, Charles R.
Cole, Aaron L.
Cole, Bobbie L.
Cole, Jack L.
Cole JR., James M.
Cole, Susan A.
Cole, Theresa L.
Coleman, Leona T.
Coleman, Steve M.
Combs, Beulah
Combs, Harold B.
Combs, Marcus L.
Combs, Melvin L.
Combs, Robert K.
Condreay, Maude E.
Conley, Oscar L.
Conn, Minnie R.
Conrad, Millicent W.
Cook, Jacqueline
Cook, Joyce M.
Cook Scot D.
Coon JR., Arthur
Cooper, Cranford W.
Cooper, David L.
Cooper, John T.
Cooper, Lyndel L.
Cooper, Mary N.
Coots, Mark A.
Copeland, Lisa L.
Copland, Michael R.
Cornfeld, Thelma
Cottrell, Cindy L.
Couch, Jack C.
Coulter, Kathy D.
Coursey, Dorless J.
Coursey, Richard J.
Courtemanche, Deborah
Cowan, Alice M.
Cowles, Agnes L.
Cowles, Jimmy W.
Cox, Jerry E.
Cox, Laura S.
Cox, Winnie J.
Coyle, Bobby L.
Coyle, Elsie
Coyle, Jamie J.
Coyle, Randy A.
Crain, Ambia L.
Crawford, Debra A.
Crawford, Linda C.
Crawford, Scotty S.
Cricklin, David R.

Critzer, Mikela K.
Cron, Teresa M.
Crook, Danetta A.
Crosby, Shonna E.
Crounse, Jacqueline
Crowell, Marquette M.
Crowell, Thomas J.
Cruse, Carrie E.
Cully, Anna L.
Cunningham, Celease
Curry, Jerome H.
Curry, Ostennia M.
Cutburth, Emma L.
Daniels, Lance S.
Dark, Jan M.
Daugherty, Jenifred L.
Davidson, Oneawa K.
Davis, Anthony P.
Davis, Billy
Davis, Don J.
Davis, Estelen
Davis, Glenn M.
Davis, Gwendolyn
Davis, Hugh N.
Davis, Linda F.
Davis, Martha K.
Davis, Mary M.
Davis, Mella M.
Davis, Michele J.
Davis, Nicole R.
Davis JR., Oneil
Dawson, Mancia
Day, James H.
Day, Ora M.
Deacon, Denette A.
Dean, Richard V.
Deaver, Sarah J.
Deer, Isaac
Deere, Christopher C.
Deere, Dana M.
Deere, Kerry A.
Deere, Mord H.
Deere, Samuel R.
Deerinwater, George E.
Demry, Lacy D.
Denney, Melissa A.
Dennis, Beverly S.
Deo, Steven T.
Deroin, Debra C.
Determan, Freda
Dewoody, Margaret L.
Dickerson, Crawford K.
Dickerson SR., R.S.
Dickey (Fleet), Alice
Dickson (Jones), Velve
Diehl, Daniel S.
Factor (Franks), Peggy
Factor, Stephen W.
Falconer, Barbara A.
Faris (Madrid), Jamie
Farnsworth, Kathy S.
Feagan (Jensen), Anna

Featherston, Lee
Felix, Richard A.
Feliz (Pittman), Helen
Attention to all Joseph Marks, Veatrice Marks, and Beatrice Marks decendants

The following are hereby notified to contact the Citizenship Board Office by August 3, by 5:00p.m.
Lynetta Williams
Anita Keeper
James Sylvester Mason Jr.
Wanda Faye Keeler
Valencia Faith Shannon
Terry Wayne Shannon II
Willie Dean Shannon II
Jimmie Olen Marks
William Ralph Grundy, Jr.
Terry Wayne Shannon
Otis Jr. Dwight Marks
Shaunette G Hawkins
Travis L. Hawkins
Travis L. Hawkins
Ora Marks tyler
Debra Lynn Mason Webb
Orea Marks Tyler
Althea Divon Marks
Joe Anne Harris
Brice Christopher Harris
Sherri Ann Harris
Reba Marks Newan
Cayal D. Danna
Jiah D. Marks
Eugene Tyler
Willie Dean Shannon
Margaret K. Marks
Sylvia Denise Selmon
Jayon Jay Selmon
Freda J. Selmon
Imogene Pinkie Jordan
Catherine Marks Bellamy
Lonnie B. Marks
Coydell Miller Jr.
Victor Cornell Miller
Stefan Cornelius Caddy
Emmanuel Alexander Caddy
Sandy G. Marks
Michael V. Marks
Darienea Annette Marks
Anthony Eugene Williams
Cedric Joseph
Evelyn Curtisene Carter
Nicholle Arjuan Carter
Kathy Lynn Kelly
Jocelyn N. Thompson
Walter Boyd
Milford June Carter II
Suzanne Alcox Letitia
Contact the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Citizenship Board at 1-800-482-1979 or (918) 756-7800, ext 7940/7941/7942/7943.

MVTO to firemen and auxiliaries
CHECOTAH - In February, the members of the Checotah Indian Community approved to donate \$5000 each to 12 fire departments. The departments are: Checotah, FAIC, Hitchita, Leisure Land, Tiger Mountain, Lottawatah, Onapa, Paradise Point, Porum Landing, Rentiesville, Shady Grove-Central High, and Texanna. Many members of our Community have been affected by the wildfires in our community and these fire departments were there to help save properties, livestock and most importantly lives. We held a reception for the departments and presented each with a \$5000.00 check. We hope that this donation will help deter costs of equipment breakdowns and supply shortages. Again, we would like to say MVTO (Thank you) to all the firemen and auxiliaries that assisted during the outbreak of wildfires.



06 Creek Nation 4-H SUMMER Camp
The 2006 Creek Nation 4-H Summer Camp was held June 19-21 at the O.S.U.-Okmulgee Campus and the Okmulgee Indian Community Center. 22 youth took part in the event. Nationally known musician and poet Joy Harjo taught on the history of traditional Creek music and its impact on current music. Ms. Harjo helped the youth produce a CD containing songs sang by the youth in the Creek Language. The CD also contained portions written by the youth.



Will Hill and Jeahnen Washington conducted a class on storytelling and oral history. Hill and Washington then directed the youth in performing two traditional stories, which was part of the closing ceremony. Sam and David Proctor spoke to the youth about the history and traditions of the Stomp Dance followed by a Stomp Dance with the youth participating. The Muscogee Nation Language Program conducted classes on Creek language. They taught the camp participants the Muscogee names for common items, such as foods and body parts. The youth also wrote a story in the Muscogee language. Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative offered instruction on traditional Muscogee foods and how to prepare them. The youth helped prepare a traditional meal for the closing ceremony. Ted Isham, of the Creek Council House Museum, taught on traditional games and their role in Muscogee Society. The Creek youth made their own ball sticks and played a game of stickball, boys against girls, don't ask the boys who won. The camp concluded with a performance of what the youth had learned and a traditional meal prepared, with help from the youth. Parents, instructors and employees of the Creek Nation were invited.

2006 Joint Tribes JOM Youth Conference

OKLAHOMA CITY — If you happened to be in the Oklahoma City area during June 25th through June 26 and saw a group of good looking Indian high school student in lime green shirts – it was probably the JOM Youth Conference students.

Close to 60 students from the Chickasaw, Choctaw and Creek Nations, attend the 2006 Conference. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation JOM Program was the host for this year conference and sponsored in 23 students to attend.

Activities at the Conference varied from visiting the Capitol with Representative Lisa Billy, visiting the Oklahoma City Memorial, attending team building workshops and learning Native crafts. There was even a stickball game held right on the grounds of the hotel hosted by the Creek Nation Diabetes program.

According to Alyssa Bear, a student from Jenks high school, “I came away from the Conference with more friends and more respect for my elders. The Memorial made me realize the value of life and the things I have, my family and my niece Kylie. I realized what they all mean to me and I don’t want to ever experience the pain that parents did in April.”

Ashley Pahsetopah of Sapulpa said “I enjoyed meeting new people and learning to play stick ball.”

Chance Marsey of Depew said, “I had a great time meeting new people and



2006 JOM Conference attendees

learning to show respect not only to my elders but to my fellow peers as well.”

Darren Fields of Preston said, “I felt sad and touched at the Memorial because I feel that those people shouldn’t have had to go through what they went through.”

There were also a total of twelve elders who guided the students through the daily activities all the while teaching life lessons. Elder, Gwen Parish-Bart said, “It’s a wonderful time for both elders and youth to meet on common ground and share those traditions that aren’t being passed on. It was a time for the youth to see the leadership from their elders and set their goals for their own leadership roles. This was the best Conference ever and I want to come back next year.”

Eufaula Dormitory now Accepting Applications

EUFAULA — Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory is now accepting applications for enrollment for the 2006-2007 school term. Eufaula Dormitory is a BIA funded peripheral dormitory for boys and girls, 1st through 12th grade. The enrollment date for Middle School and High School students is Tuesday, August 8, 2006 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Elementary students will enroll on Wednesday, August 9, 2006 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Enrollment is limited. Therefore, contact the dormitory as soon as possible for applications. Classes begin on Thursday, August 10, 2006 at the Eufaula Public Schools.

All new students are required to have a CDIB, Social Security card, up-to-date immunization records, birth certificate, physical, report cards and/or transcript from the previous school year. All returning students grades 5-12 will need to have a sports physical if they are planning to participate in sports.

Eufaula Dormitory has implemented five (5) day residential services for our program. In this program, each weekend, our students are taken to a designated bus stop location in their area on Friday evening and picked up at the same location on Sunday afternoon/early evening. Eufaula Dormitory offers a structured environment with supplementary services such as tutoring, behavioral and academic counseling, library and computer-learning resource center.

For further information write to the following address: Creek Nation Eufaula Dormitory, 716 Swadley Drive, Eufaula, OK 74432 or contact the Administration Office at 1-(800) 896-3181 or (918) 689-2522.

Regent’s attend conference in Chicago

submitted by Board of Regents

OKMULGEE — One of the many tasks its faced as Regent’s of a college in it’s infancy, is to make certain we are creating an institution that our people will not only attend, but also will be proud to have attended. In order to establish ourselves in higher education, we must strive to obtain accreditation from North Central Association (NCA).

Each year the Higher Learning Commission of the NCA holds a conference in Chicago, which this year was the 111th annual meeting and was held from March 31 through April 4. There were approximately 2, 800 people in attendance from educational institutions from across NCA’s region which includes, Arkansas, Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, North Dakota, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, New Mexico, South Dakota, Wisconsin, West Virginia, and Wyoming.

The conference is a multi-faceted event, offering over 200 sessions including roundtables and events. NCA offers accreditation to various educational institutions spanning from universities to distance learning providers. Of these various institutions, some were seeking accreditation, such as ourselves, others were seeking to maintain accreditation, and still others

were some where in between.

We learned throughout the conference, that we have a lot more to learn, but isn’t that what higher education is all about? The first full day of the conference, spent in a room with Lady Branham, the Deputy to the Executive Director of NCA, where she overviewed the steps necessary for any institution to be accredited. Frankly, her portion of the seminar could have been held everyday of the conference and she still would have needed more time to explain the detail of the endeavor that we have embarked upon. The next couple of days spent in roundtables where we met with other people from Tribal Colleges and discussed the concerns, challenges, and benefits of being a Tribal College.

One of the main things that I personally took away from attending this conference was that others have been where we stand now, that others have persevered, and that with the support that we have received from the Chief, the Council, OSU, and our fellow citizens we will not only achieve accreditation but we will also succeed in creating a well respected College where we can be proud to send our citizens and where they will receive a first class education making them a valuable resource to our Tribe.

American Indian Fellowship In Business Scholarships

MESA,AZ — Each year, the National Center of American Indian Enterprise Development awards scholarships to American Indian colleges or graduate students majoring in business. Scholarships are awarded at the Indian Progress in Business Awards Banquet (INPRO) at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, California.

INPRO 2006 will be held on Thursday, September 21, 2006. In addition to the scholarships, recipients are provided airfare and lodging to attend INPRO. Recipients must be available to attend the event.

Three to five American Indian Fellowship in Business Scholarships will be given to American Indian college students majoring in business who are currently in their junior, senior, or master level of study.

Eligible students must be enrolled full-time and be at the junior, senior, or graduate level. Applicants must submit the application, as well as a statement request-

ing consideration and stating their reasons for pursuing higher education, their plans following completion of their degree and any other relevant information such as activities and commitment to the community. Submitted applications must include separate essays (250 words each) that specifically address Community Involvement, Personal Challenges, and Business Experience (Paid or Volunteer) criteria to earn maximum points. Applicants are judged primarily on achievement and commitment to the community. Transcripts (official or unofficial) and documentation of tribal enrollment must accompany the application. For further information please contact Tracey Jennings at 1-800-4NCAIED Ext 234 or e-mail events@ncaied.org.

Applications must be received no later than August 4, 2006 by mail or fax:

NCAIED Scholarship Committee
953 East Juanita Avenue, Mesa, AZ 85204 Fax: (480) 545-4208

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Offers GED Classes

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Nation G.E.D. classes will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The classes will be located in the Human Development Building on the Creek Nation complex.

For more information contact Deborah McGirt at 800-482-1979 or (918) 732-7780.

NAFA Scholarship Recipients

OKMULGEE — The Native American Fund Advisors (NAFA) provides a scholarship to Muscogee (Creek) students who are majoring in the area of Business, Finance or Accounting.

The Scholarship was established by a generous donation of the NAFA. NAFA is one of a few Indian owned and operated fee based investment management firms in the U.S. The NAFA founders and current owners represent citizenships from the Cherokee, Chickasaw, and Muscogee (Creek) Nations. NAFA is located in Tulsa, and offers bond and equity portfolio management for tribal governments, foundations, corporations, trusts, pensions and profit sharing plans and high net-worth individuals.

Four NAFA scholarships of \$1000 per student are awarded yearly through the Higher Education Department. To be eligible, a student must remain full-time status for the

entire academic year and maintain a 2.5 or more on a 4.0 scale.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Administration announces the following students that are receiving the \$1000 per year scholarship and will continue for the academic year 06/07:

- 1) Darren Ferguson Oklahoma State University,
- 2) John Neal University of Central Oklahoma,
- 3) Mahaya On-The-Hill Northeastern State University,
- 4) Kyle Wittman University of Oklahoma,

The Higher Education Departmental staff, on behalf of the students, are very appreciative of the scholarship and thanks the NAFA founders for their support and making the scholarship available.

Creek and Cherokee Nation Partners with local school to provide summer Pride Program

MUSKOGEE, Okla. – The Cherokee Nation and the Creek Nation is partnering with Muskogee Public Schools to offer “Muskogee Rougher Summer Pride” to help raise awareness of the need for healthy lifestyles in school age children.

“It is great to be a partner with this community (Muskogee), the Creek Nation, and most of all, the volunteers who are working in so many ways to make this program a success,” said Cherokee Nation District 4 Tribal Council member Don Garvin.

Creek Nation National Council representative Eddie LaGrone agreed. “Cooperative partnerships such as this one between the Muscogee Creek Nation, the Cherokee Nation and Muskogee Public Schools serve to benefit all students involved specifically the Native American students.”

The Rougher Diabetes Wellness Program, or “Summer Pride,” provides diabetes screening and educational activities to make

participants aware of the early signs of diabetes and how to live a preventative lifestyle.

“We would not have been able to continue this program this summer without the generous support from the Cherokee Nation and the Creek Nation,” said Mike Gordon, superintendent of Muskogee Public Schools.

The Summer Pride program, which is in its 4th year and has over 500 participants, began on June 5th and last until July 19th.

“I believe the secret in the fight against diabetes is to have a healthy diet and daily dose of exercise,” Garvin said. “This must be started at an early age to help develop good habits and I believe this program is going to get this community headed in the right direction.”

For more information on the Summer Pride Program, contact Muskogee Public Schools at (918) 684-3700.



**NATIONAL
GUARD
GED**

REQUEST MORE INFO
CONTACT: SGT DELSO
13265 GUN CLUB RD,
OKMULGEE, OK 74447
OFFICE# (918) 752-2970

ENLISTMENT OPTIONS

1. GET YOUR GED
2. UP TO \$20,000 ENLISTMENT BONUS
3. MONTGOMERY GI BILL FOR COLLEGE
4. OVER 200 JOBS AND THE TRAINING YOU NEED
5. DRILL PAY ONCE A MONTH

REQUIREMENTS

MUST HAVE COMPLETED THE 9TH GRADE
MUST BE 17 YRS OLD OR OLDER
MUST BE IN GOOD PHYSICAL CONDITION
MUST SCORE A 31 OR HIGHER ON ASVAB



Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference holds annual meeting.



Native Veteran remembered and honored.



“Superchief” was One of a Kind.



Section B, Page 1 MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS July 2006

Cultural Activities

Children’s Creek Cultural Classes

GLENPOOL – The Summer Reading Program at the Tulsa Library American Indian Resource Center will be hosting a Children’s Creek Cultural Class on July 21 and 28 from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. at the Glenpool Library. The library is located at 730 E. 141st Street.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Cultural Preservation department will present storytelling, songs and activities about the Muscogee people. The event is for ages 5-12.

Using the Dawes Rolls seminar

TULSA – The Maxwell Park Library will be having a “Using the Dawes Rolls” seminar on July 17 from 6:30 until 8 p.m. The library is located at 1313 N. Canton.

Kathy Huber, Genealogy Center librarian, will explain the historical background of the rolls and how to use them. This event is for adults.

54th Annual Tulsa Powwow

TULSA – Tulsa Indian Club Inc. and Tulsa Native Network (TNN) will host the 54th Annual Tulsa Powwow on July 21, 22 and 23 at the Tulsa Convention Center, Exhibit Hall C from 12 p.m. until midnight. There will be contests in all categories.

For sponsorship and vendor information, contact Tulsa Indian Club Inc. at (918) 671-2417 or send an e-mail to tici@tulsapowwow.org. For artist and arts and crafts information, call Sammy Haynes at (918) 449-0344. For the latest information on all events visit www.tulsapowwow.org.

2006 Powwow of Champions

TULSA – The Intertribal Indian Club of Tulsa (IICOT) will be hosting the 29th Annual 2006 Powwow of Champions on August 11, 12 and 13 at the Tulsa State Fairgrounds Expo Building.

Admission for the event is \$5 per person. There are family passes are available at \$16 for 4 persons and \$20 for 5 persons. Children 5 years and under are free.

For vendor contract or more information, call (918) 321-3460 or (918) 838-8276, e-mail, arts-n-crafts@iicot.org or visit their website at www.iicot.org.

38th Annual Seminole Nation Days

SEMINOLE – The Seminole Nation of Oklahoma will be celebrating its 38th Annual Seminole Nation Days on August 3 through 6 at the Mekusukey Mission. The theme of this year’s celebration is “Proud History - Bright Future.”

There are four days of activities planned. Those include golf, softball, volleyball, basketball and horseshoe tournaments, cultural demonstrations, a historical drama and parade. James Walker & Smokehouse Blues Band, Smilin` Vic, Big G and Red Dawn, will perform Friday night and John Anderson, country and western singer, will be providing a concert on Saturday night. There will also be a carnival. All activities are free to the public.

For more information, contact Tammy Norris or Susie McNeal at (405) 257-7200.

Native American History Series: A Remarkable Seneca Sachem by Patrick E. Moore

An absolutely remarkable man was born in 1828 at Pembroke, New York on lands owned by the Seneca Nation. His mother was the daughter of an Iroquois Prophet and his father was a Seneca Sachem. Early in his life and before he was 20 years of age the women of his clan picked him to be a Seneca Sachem and gave him his Seneca name, Do-ne-ho-ga-wa. This name described his responsibilities as a Sachem and meant “Keeper of the Western Door of the Long House of the Iroquois.”

Do-ne-ho-ga-wa took the English name of Ely Samuel Parker and through a federal government program to educate Native Americans, he studied law, however when he applied for admission to the New York State Bar Association he was denied admission because Indians were not considered to be United States citizens.

While attending law school he met and became close friends with another young lawyer, Lewis Henry Morgan. The two men remained lifelong friends and through their joint efforts Morgan was able to study, research and write numerous books and articles on the Iroquois, to such an extent that Morgan is called “the father of American Anthropology.” The first book written by Morgan in collaboration with Parker was published in 1851.

Ely Parker then continued his education at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and was graduated as a civil engineer. His college study of law and engineering gave him a command of the English language most Native Americans lacked in the mid-19th century.

The Iroquois Nation picked him to be the interpreter in their negotiations with the United States and New York and he was instrumental in drafting treaties protecting Iroquois land rights in New York.

His close friend Lewis Henry Morgan helped him become one of the civil engineers designing the Genessee Valley Canal project. It was during the construction of the canal that he met and became a friend a local public official, Ulysses S. Grant.

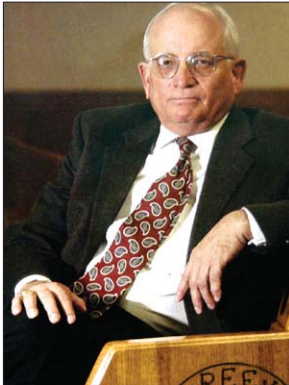
When the Civil War broke out Ely Parker enlisted in the Union Army, the now General Ulysses S. Grant selected him to serve on Grant’s personal staff. The now Colonel Ely Parker’s task was to prepare all orders and journals pertaining to the General’s operations in command of the army of the United States.

While serving in this position General Ulysses S. Grant asked that the Colonel to use his legal education, knowledge of English and fine hand writing skills to prepared the final surrender documents ending the Civil War. Colonel Parker personally penned the surrender agreement that was signed by Confederate General Robert E. Lee at Appomattox Court-house in 1865.

After General Robert E. Lee signed the surrender documents he saluted Ulysses S. Grant, shook Colonel Ely S. Parker’s hand and said, “It is nice to see one real American here today.”

Ely Parker was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General in 1867 and continued to serve in the United States Army until Ulysses S. Grant was elected President of the United States at which time President Grant wanted his old and trusted friend to take on another important task as the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

While serving as the first Indian Commissioner of Indian Affairs he defended the rights of the Indian and was therefore disliked by many of the politicians in Washington, D.C. These same politicians began to accuse him of taking bribes and committing fraud.



Moore

Accomplished Native American writer and Muscogee (Creek) citizen Joy Harjo will be submitting a monthly article about her many travels throughout the country. Many of her encounters will include visiting with other Creek citizens and Native Americans throughout the United States.

Look for Joy’s article each month on the cultural page. To introduce Joy to our readers, here is a bio prepared by her.

Joy Harjo is a full citizen of the Muscogee Nation. She was born in the Creek Nation in Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1951. Her father was Allen W. Foster, Jr. of the Tiger, or Katcv Clan, and Hickory Ground was his tribal town. His mother was Naomi Harjo Foster. Her parents were Katie Monahwee and Henry Marsey Harjo. Harjo was told by her Aunt Lois Harjo Ball that the family settled in Tiger Flats when they came to Indian Territory. Henry Marsey Harjo was Wind Clan and of Eufaula Canadian Tribal Town. Harjo’s mother is Wynema Jewell Pickett, a Cherokee citizen, who lives in Tulsa. Harjo lives in Honolulu, Hawaii and teaches at the University of New Mexico every fall in Albuquerque where her daughter Rainy Dawn Ortiz lives with her husband Tim Chee and five children. Her son Phil Wilmon/Bush lives in Wisconsin with his daughter Haleigh Sarah. And her stepdaughter Ratonnia Wilmon Clayton is outside of Seattle. Harjo will tell you that though she has accumulated quite a list of accomplishments [including publication of eight books of poetry, an anthology of native writing, two CD’s of music, a spoken word CD, performances here and there (including HBO’s Def Poetry Jam, the Ford Theater in Los Angeles), and she co-wrote the signature film of the Smithsonian Museum of the American Indian], her grandchildren and children are at the top of the list, for without them none of this would have happened. Harjo reminds us that her list of failures is much longer, maybe even as long as the Arkansas River, and says that though she is a direct descendent of Monahwee, she is also descended from family members who lived for guitars and singing and has inherited a strong gene for parking junked cars in the yard.



Harjo

Coming and going in Indian country by Joy Harjo

Thursday night of the Creek Nation Festival, after we filled ourselves up with plates from Charlie’s Chicken, my sister and I dragged our chairs up to the stomp dance circle to enjoy the music and the company. Usually I’m right in there with my shells. That night I just took the spirit of it all in as the music carried us: the ongoing stories of friends, and the prodigious growth in the nation. I was in mourning for a beloved friend, a Mvskoke citizen who was buried just hours before, far away from the nation. He had left Wagoner with his family when he was eleven. Later he joined the military, married a Hawaiian woman and stayed in Honolulu. Bill Tiger made a community in the islands for many of us. He embodied the spirit of vnoketckv. And because of him when people far from Oklahoma think of the Mvskoke they’ll think Tiger: tall, outgoing and generous.

When we leave the tight circle of the nation in Oklahoma we become emissaries of a sort, whether we are officially appointed as such, or not. Anywhere we Mvskokes go we’re often the only Mvskoke anyone ever meets, or even the only Indian. And you can be sure that wherever you are, at the grounds, in church, or on a street half way across the world from Oklahoma, someone is always watching to see how you act.

I left Oklahoma late summer of 1967 for high school at the Institute of American Indian Arts, a BIA Indian school in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Everything I owned was packed into my brand new army green footlocker. Richard Ray Whitman, Yuchi Creek was a student there, as were the Fife sisters: Phyllis and Sandy. I left again with a Cherokee husband, son and stepdaughter in 1970 in a car whose trunk slid off every few miles. We frequently ran out into the road and retrieve it. Since then I’ve lived mostly in New Mexico and Hawaii. I’ve gotten to do a bit of traveling to perform, from Argentina to a music festival north of the Arctic Circle in Saami country in Norway. What always strikes me is that no matter where or how far away from Oklahoma I travel, though we may be few and far be-

tween out there, I always meet up with Creeks.

I’ll never forget Alex Posey’s granddaughter being wheeled up to meet me at the Heard Museum in Phoenix. And some years back when I was feeling a little bewildered in the middle of Pennsylvania, Rosemary McCombs Maxey came up and introduced herself and made me feel at home. I was in New York City a few years ago and was proud to catch Tim Sampson appearing in his father, Sonny Sampson’s classic role in the Broadway show, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo’s Nest*.

In this column I’ll be regularly reporting on and commenting about what’s going out here on that might be pertinent for our people. We have lots of talent all over, and there’s always something going on in Indian country.

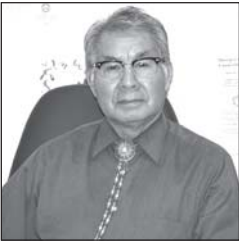
I just received news from Muscogee citizen, Eddie Chuculate that his story: “Galveston Bay 1826” will be included in the O. Henry Prize Stories of 2007, which will be published by Anchor Books. Now this is quite an accomplishment, and one of the most prestigious awards for short fiction. It’s sort of like slamming a win in a national ballgame playoff. He’s the first Mvskoke citizen to win such an honor. He says: “Raymond and Frances Narcomey were my full-blooded Creek great-grandparents. He was a preacher at West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church for decades. They had a house in Hanna, right across the street from Hillabee Indian Baptist Church. Maxine (Narcomey) Flanary, was my Creek grandmother, also full-blood even though it said 15/16 on her CDIB, which is ridiculous, because both her parents (Raymond and Frances) were both 4/4. My mother is Lorencita (Narcomey) Holmes. Dad was Donald Everett Chuculate (Cherokee)”. Other great American writers to achieve this honor include F. Scott Fitzgerald, James Baldwin and Louise Erdrich. Congratulations.

Will see you next month. Until then you can reach me via e-mail nativesax@yahoo.com.

The ensuing investigation completely cleared Parker and instead pointed the finger of guilt at the accusing politicians, who themselves had been taking large sums money from wealthy railroad owners and land speculators for legislation unfriendly to Indian land interests.

A disgusted Ely S. Parker resigned his post as Commissioner of Indian Affairs and returned to private life where he continued to serve the Seneca and contribute to the accumulation of historical data on the Iroquois Confederacy until his death in 1895. He was able through his personal stature and prominence to prevent any further encroachments onto or loss of Seneca Nation lands in the state of New York. His nephew Arthur C. Parker became the first archaeologist with the New York State Museum and later became the Director of the Rochester Museum continuing the Ely Samuel Parker Legacy.

Senior Service Manager Update *by Jackson Barnett*



June 14, Wednesday - The Senior Services program vans departed Okmulgee around 10:15 a.m. Our destination was Branson, Missouri for the second annual “Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans” celebration.

For those unfamiliar with military history, this celebration was to give the military men and women returning home after Vietnam war a proper welcome home that they did not receive. Those returning from previous wars experienced tickertape parades. Recognition, and celebrations. Vietnam veterans experienced negative reactions such as having things thrown at them, verbal abuse and to the point of being called baby killers. So a movement was started to give those Vietnam veterans the welcome home I and others feel they deserve. The city of Branson was very receptive and thus this yearly celebration had its first annual gathering last year.

I myself was in the military during the early part of that era. I was fortunate that I did not experience such treatment. However,



(left to right) Jackson Barnett, Brent Moffer, Danny McKinney, George Barnett, Donnie Dunzey and Frank Chisum

hearing my brothers and sisters receiving this type of treatment made me feel that I was being thought of in this way also. I was only too happy to arrange this trip for our tribal veterans of whom there are many.

The following Mvskoke veterans made the journey to Branson. Jackson Barnett, program manager and arranger, Brent Moffer, Driver, Donnie Dunzey, Danny McKinney, Edward Starr, Sonny Skaggs, George Barnett, Frank Chisum, Amos Harjo, and Mrs. Harjo, who was treated like a queen by all our guys.

Our first stop, of course, was for lunch in Chouteau, Oklahoma. The restaurant there, by the way, was featured in the Tulsa World just a few days ago. It is operated by the Amish people living around Chouteau. I thought we were never going to stop eating to continue traveling. But we finally did after a pound or two gained.

We headed on to the Cherokee turnpike East into Siloam Springs on the Arkansas line and continued East for some sixty miles. After going through miles of mountainous roads we turned North on Highway 65 straight into Branson.

Not much happening that evening. We had a good dinner after getting our rooms then returned and rested. The next morning

afforded the opportunity to wander and shop with the many vendors. After lunch it was almost time for the Powwow to begin. Immediately upon our arrival at the ground, the arena director, a Ho-Chunk from Wisconsin, came out to greet us and asked if we had brought our Tribal Flag. We replied that we had, then he asked if we were willing to lead the grand entry for both the afternoon and evening sessions. We were happy to be of some help. One of our veterans, Amos Harjo, gave the opening prayer to begin the Powwow. During the evening session, a special dance was held for each of the military branches. Some of us danced, some did not.

The next morning, Friday the parade was scheduled to step off at 10:00 a.m. we were at the assembly point at 9:30 a.m. our number in line was forty-one and the parade route was one mile and six tenths. We marched east facing the sun and it was plenty hot. Two of our veterans were not able to make the march so they rode on a “Duck” a military vehicle made to travel on land and water. The rest of us marched single file proudly carrying our Mvskoke Flag and a special banner made for special occasions such as this.

The crowds seemed appreciative and many pictures were taken of us. I guess we were special as there were no other Indian

tribes in the parade. Probably because I was the last in line, the person broadcasting the parade a the parade at the reviewing stand came out and stuck a microphone in my face and asked me to tell something about our tribe. I told the people what I could in the minute or so that I had. We finished the march at 11:30 a.m. and immediately boarded our vans and began our way home. We stopped in Joplin, Missouri for lunch then made it on in just in time for the beginning of the Creek Festival.

It was a good experience and our guys and lady represented our tribe well. I was very proud of them all. I understand there is to be another veterans celebration there even bigger than this year’s. I may try to arrange another trip there around veterans day holiday in November.

I had hoped there would be more of our veterans taking part. However I can do only so much, make preparations and arrangements but I can’t make people participate.

I thank those Mvskoke veterans who went. I thank Lizanne Holata for making our lodging reservations just across the street from where most of the activities took place. All went well.

Until next time, *Mvto* and sincerely!



Leading the Grand Entry for the Pow Wow

Creek Nation 2006 Festival Sr. Activities Results

By Chumona Polecat

- Horseshoe contest**
1. July Harjo – \$200
 2. Leon Bell – \$150
 3. Reuben Kelly – \$100
- Quilt Contest**
1. Cogee Long – \$200
 2. Annie Mae O’Field – \$150
 3. Lillian Thomas – \$100
- Jacks contest**
1. Pat Sloan – \$50
 2. Rachel Asbury Bruner – \$30
 3. B.J. Hampton – \$20
- Original Allottees**

The original allottees got recognition from the Centenarian Club of Oklahoma and received a Certificate and a Golden Okie Pin.

Martha Berryhill – Mrs. Berryhill will be 106 years old on July 12. A birthday party will be held at the Sr. Citizens Nutrition Center, Okmulgee on July 12 at 1:00 p.m.

Ada Wolfe – Mrs. Wolfe passed away Monday July 3, 2006 her final resting place will be the Oakdale cemetery in Depew. Services will be held Saturday 10:00 a.m. at the Hutchins-Maple Funeral Home in Bristow, OK.

Lucy Nelson - The state of Oklahoma recognized her with a certificate and a Golden Okie Pin.

NOTICE:

Chief Ellis requests all Creek citizens who are Artisan’s to submit the following information: Name, Address, Art/Craft to Muscogee (Creek) Nation, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or call (918) 732-7643.

Administration Lobby Showcases Creek Heritage

By Sunny Tiger, Tribal Planning

OKMULGEE — Transformed from brick, the lobby of the administration building at the Creek Capital complex has changed into a beautiful entrance displaying the daily lives of Creek people from times of past to modern, with traditional and non-traditional items.

As one enters they are embraced by the magnificent lives of Creek citizens. The display cases in the lobby are a place to “show off” our heritage.

The collection found in the display cases of the lobby is not only unique, but would be hard to exactly duplicate. Some of the items in this first quarter include pottery, a Creek Bible, a pair of ball sticks, a collection of art from the Five Civilized Tribes Museum, a Native American collection of salt and pepper shakers, a Purple Heart, books, photographs, a ribbon dress, locv (turtle shell shakers) and many more items.

This collection was displayed from the end of February and has lasted until the Creek Festival, the middle of June. The owners were then notified their items are ready for pick up.

Those participating in this first session of the display case donations were: Principal Chief A. D. Ellis, James Proctor, Jack Chaney, Evelyn Smith, Carrol (Sonny) Been, Harvey Gilroy, Salina Jayne-Dornan, D. Brent Moffer, Janet Lee, The Five Civilized Tribes Museum on behalf of Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, Ben Chaney, Ruth Bible and Mallory Bible.

A very special thank you to all those who participated in this quarter of the display case donations. Without your participation our new display cases would have been empty. So once again, thank you so much for your generosity with your priceless treasures.

For those who would like to donate to the display cases, one must be an enrolled citizen. It is a loan type basis, we keep the items for three to six months. Then notify the person when the agreed time is reached.

For more information please contact Sunny Tiger at (918) 732-7823 in the Tribal Planning Department.



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Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference holds annual meeting *by Rev. David Wilson*

ANADARKO — Hundreds of Native American United Methodists converged for the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of The United Methodist Church, which is comprised of 89 Native churches in Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas on June 8 through 11.

Delegates to the churches met to discuss the business of the conference, and to celebrate accomplishments through worship and fellowship. The conference opened with a procession of tribal flags from the state of Oklahoma, which represented the membership of the Methodist Conference.

Resident Bishop, Robert E. Hayes, Jr., challenged the delegates to share the good news of what happened over the four day annual conference.

“What happened here can’t stay here,” Bishop Hayes said. “When people ask what happened at annual conference, we must tell them about what we have done and what we will continue to do,” he said.

Delegates celebrated many accomplishments over the past year, including the formation of new fellowships in native communities in Oklahoma and

Kansas, said Rev. David Wilson, Conference Superintendent.

Wilson reported that new fellowships are now formed in Hulbert, Oklahoma, Durant, Oklahoma, North Oklahoma City, and a revitalized fellowship at Kabeah Chapel, located on the Kickapoo Reservation at Horton, Kansas.

“We are excited that there continues to be possibilities for new ministries across our conference,” Wilson said. “There continues to be a great need for new ministries in many places across our conference, and the conference is thankful that we have been able to be present in these locations.”

“It is hoped that the fellowships will eventually be chartered as United Methodist churches in the near future,” Wilson said.

“Delegates celebrated financial accomplishments, including their payment of 100 percent of its world service apportionments, which supports missions and ministry across the world,” Wilson said. This was the eighth year in a row that the conference has paid 100 percent.

A report of accomplishments regarding the conference’s response to

those affected last year by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita was presented, which highlighted the eight volunteer work teams that went to Mississippi and to the United Houma Nation in Louisiana.

Disaster Response Director, Phillis McCarty applauded the teams that went to both places to assist with those in need. She reported that there remains much to be done with those areas, including a continued response to the United Houma Nation. A team leaders training is scheduled for the fall for persons who will lead teams to continue with the rebuilding efforts.

Mrs. McCarty also reported that the conference is working with United Methodist Committee on Relief to secure a grant for the United Houma Nation to get a staff person employed to work with the disaster response.

A special service was held on June 9, commemorating the 50th anniversary of full clergy rights for women in The Methodist tradition. Twenty-one clergy women in the conference led the service, recognizing the contributions that native clergy women have made to the Church.

Delegates recognized persons such as the Rev. Lois Glory Neal, who

was the conference’s first Native American female seminary graduate and the first Native American female superintendent for the entire denomination.

Delegates passed a resolution, affirming its commitment to taking intentional steps to affirm the use of tribal language in the conference through tribal hymns, which comprise a large part of the worship in OIMC churches. The resolution was presented by Dr. Richard Grounds, a member of Pickett Chapel UMC and active participant in the retention of tribal languages across the state.

The resolution calls for the conference to find ways to encourage the use of tribal language in the churches through prayer, worship, recordings and preservation of tribal hymns.

Time will be set aside at the 2007 annual conference session to highlight

a tribal singing competition time for the children and youth in OIMC churches.

The OIMC represents the largest concentration of Native American United Methodists in the entire country. This was the 164th

gathering of the historic Indian Missionary Conference, which began among the Cherokees, Creeks and Choctaws.



The clergy and lay persons are preparing to process in for the tribal flag procession at the annual conference.



Here is a photo of the Native Clergywomen who were recognized at our annual conference.

University provides site for satellite seminary in Oklahoma *by Holly McCray, “Contact” magazine editor*

OKLAHOMA CITY — A United Methodist university has agreed to provide space to a seminary for a satellite campus for United Methodists in the region.

Oklahoma City University and church-related Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City, Missouri, have agreed in principle to establish the Saint Paul Theological Seminary at Oklahoma City University, making it the only United Methodist seminary in the state.

The agreement between the university and seminary was announced May 29 during the 2006 Oklahoma Annual (regional) Conference, and the satellite campus is expected to begin accepting theological students in fall 2007. The action has been approved by Saint Paul officials and faculty.

Conference delegates responded with applause and cheers when Oklahoma Bishop Robert E. Hayes Jr. announced the news in his episcopal address. They also warmly greeted Oklahoma City University President Tom McDaniel when he addressed the conference about the plan.

“I’m just elated this has come about. I know the importance of what a United Methodist education can do for people in the church,” Hayes said. “You soak in everything from the United Methodist presence in that setting. I want our people to be prepared, to pass that on to those in the pews.”

He acknowledged Saint Paul School of Theology as “a school steeped in issues of social justice, in working with people on the margins of society.” The seminary teaches its students how to address churches involved in those areas, he said. “It’s a perfect match for Oklahoma.”

McDaniel said the seminary has “more and more non-traditional students,” which he defines as “people who are going back to the university after being out in the community doing something else - older students, more established” in their lives.

“For those who want to go to a United Methodist seminary, this will be more convenient. This will broaden the base of opportunity,” he noted. He sees the satellite seminary at Oklahoma City University as being “squarely” within the university’s mission as a place of higher education in the state.

Hayes and McDaniel believe the seminary also will appeal to people beyond those entering formal ministry. They envision pairing seminary study with other disciplines at the university, such as the schools of law, business and music. The new seminary will be the eighth college at the university.

“There is a need for people who don’t want to go into ministry but want to further their education in theological ways,” Hayes said. “This will provide other opportunities: church administration, sacred music, church law.”

Scholarships will be a focus of fund-raising for the school. McDaniel said corporate support will be crucial.

Serving Native Americans

“Probably the most rewarding aspect of this for me is the relationship the seminary will have to the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference,” Hayes said.

The officials are leading the way to secure funding to pay all seminary costs for United Methodist Native Americans in Oklahoma, Kansas and portions of Texas wanting to enter into ministry. They hope to expand that to cover undergraduate degree costs too. The bishop said about 10 ordained elders serve in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, which has 90 churches.

“We are excited about Saint Paul School of Theology’s new satellite campus at Oklahoma City University. Its proximity will serve OIMC very well,” said the Rev. David Wilson, superintendent of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Confer-



UMNS photo by Holly McCray
Bishop Robert Hayes (left) greets Oklahoma City University President Tom McDaniel during the Oklahoma Annual Conference.

ence. “In this new venture, any Native American United Methodist in our annual conference can attend seminary for free.”

The cost of seminary has been prohibitive for many young native people, Wilson said. The location of the satellite campus will assist in recruiting young native people into ordained ministry “because of the fact that it will be of no cost to native people,” he said.

Open to all

McDaniel reported 33 other higher education institutions operate in Oklahoma. “There is competition and, in the long run, it makes us all better,” he said. “What we want to offer is a choice,” he said.

Saint Paul Theological Seminary would be accessible to all, Hayes said. “It is just simply us trying to look out after the needs of United Methodist students who want to learn in a United Methodist environment.”

The bishop was a pastor in the Texas Conference when Perkins School of Theology, based at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, expanded into the Houston area. The initial goal was 20 students; 80 were enrolled by the second year.

“You would be saturating this jurisdiction if you had more than two full seminaries,” Hayes explained. “We already have two: Saint Paul and Perkins. We decided a satellite campus with Saint Paul is better for our needs.”

Church Activities

Youth Revival

OKEMAH — Buckeye Creek Baptist Church will be having a youth revival on July 20 through 22. All youth are welcome to come.

For more information, call (918) 623-4222.

Co-ed Slow Pitch Softball Tournament

DEWAR — A Coed Slow Pitch Softball Tournament will be held July 21 & 22.

Entry fee is \$125 plus 2 Blue Dot balls and deadline to enter is July 15. Church teams encouraged to enter. Teams will consist of 12 players, six men and 4 woman field. Rosters will be due before first game.

For more information, contact Rick at (918) 652-2756 or (918) 650-0138 and Kim at (918) 652-3182 or (918) 652-8563.

Indian Falls Creek

DAVIS — Indian Falls Creek 2006 will be held July 31 through August 4. This year’s theme will be “All things are possible.”

The camp preacher for morning service will be Waylon Bailey, Pastor of 1st Baptist Church of Covington, Louisiana and evening service preacher will be Dr. Robert Smith Jr., Professor of Preaching of Beeson Divinity Schoop, Samford University of Birmingham, Alabama.

The worship team director will be Jesse Hernandez, 1st Baptist Church of Shawnee, Oklahoma. The Children’s Church Director will be “Tricky Ricky” Henson, Evangelist of Jonesboro, Georgia.

For more information, contact Victor Cope, IFC Executive Director at (405) 598-8720.

Okmulgee Catholic Youth Organization Fund Raiser

OKMULGEE — Save your inactive cell phones and empty inkjet cartridges. Help save the earth and help the youth at the same time. Cell phones and ink cartridges may be dropped off at the Creek Nation Communications Department or St. Anthony Church. All funds will help the Okmulgee Catholic Youth Organization with their area service projects. You can also recycle your newspapers, magazines, etc. at St. Anthony Church in the green bin located at the back of the church.

For more information, call Dan Beasley, Okmulgee Catholic Youth Organization Coordinator at (918) 510-2996.

BIRTHS

April Oskee Barnett

TULSA — April Oskee Barnett was born April 29 at St. Francis Hospital to Stephanie Good Voice and Roger Barnett. She weighed 6 pounds and 5 ounces and was 18 1/2 in length. Maternal grandparents are Sally Good Voice and the late Kenneth Good Voice of Okmulgee. Paternal grandparents are Rachel Barnett and the late Joseph Barnett of Bristow. April has one sister, Chenoa and brother, Eco.



Trinity Leigh Friday

KILLEEN, Texas — Trinity Leigh Friday was born on March 25 to Leigh Friday of Tulsa. She is the granddaughter of Viola Todd and the late Jimmy Friday Sr. of Boynton. Trinity is the great granddaughter of Bennie and Josephine Friday of Boynton.



MUSCOGEEPEOPLE

Timothy Morgan

HOLDENVILLE — Timothy Morgan has signed a letter of intent to play football for Haskell Indian Nation University for the 2006 fall semester. He is the son of Maurice and Esther Morgan. He attended Holdenville school for 13 years. He is a four-year starter for the Holdenville Wolverines. Tim received player of the week and rushed for over 1000 yards for the 2005 season. He was selected to play in the 2006 Native All-Star game held in Lawton. He is the grandson of the late Lloyd Lowe and Katherine Summerfield Lowe and Zelda Morgan of Holdenville and the late Edward Morgan. Morgan is a member of the First Indian Baptist Church of Holdenville.



Photo by: Bob Melton, Holdenville News

ACCOMPLISHMENT

Brittany DeAnn Foster

KELLYVILLE — Brittany DeAnn Foster a fifth grader at Kellyville Upper Elementary was placed on the honor roll for the 2005-06 school year. She received many certificates from school and a trip to Bell’s amusement park. She participated in softball and basketball. She is the daughter of David Foster of Sapulpa and Georgie McNac of Kellyville. Brittany is the granddaughter of Dan and Brenda Foster of Kellyville and Alan and Betty Pulver of Sapulpa.



Arianna Maelyn Osborne

OKEMAH — Arianna Maelyn Osborne of Bristow was crowned Little Miss Pioneer Day Princess. Arianna celebrated her second birthday on May 26 with a Dora the Explorer theme and a cookout at the park with family and friends. Grandparents are Simmer and Sharon Hicks of Okemah and Marilyn Stanfill of Scranton, Arkansas. Great grandparents are Thomas and Etleen Harjo of Oklahoma City and Bill O’Quinn of Scranton, Arkansas and Mary O’Quinn of Eupora, Mississippi and the late Joe and Lorene Hicks. She belongs to the wind clan and the Okfuskee ceremonial ground.



ANNIVERSARY

Jake and Liz Bruner

LAMAR — Jake and Liz Bruner of Wetumka celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on April 1. They were honored with a buffet dinner reception held at Middle Creek #1 Baptist church. This special event was hosted by relatives. Their children, friends and family were in attendance for this joyous occasion.



SENIOR HIGHLIGHTS

Kelly Beck
School: Morris High School
Clan: Wind
Tribal Town: Okmulgee
Parents: Louise Edmerson
Grandparents: Ethel Edmerson
Plans: Attend OSU-Okmulgee to get an associates degree in nursing.



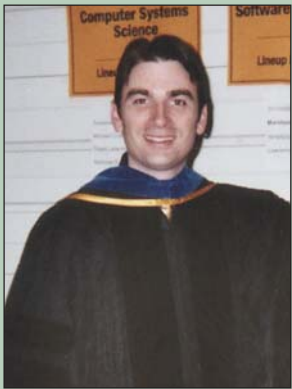
Chad Deere
School: Eufaula Public School
Parents: David and Charlene Deere
Grandparents: the late Judson Deere & Nancy Deere, the late Sam Beaver & Wanda Buckley
Awards: class clown, Who’s Who Among American students, most improve player in baseball
Activities: football, basketball, and baseball
Plans: attend college



Jacob M. Bible
School: Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford
Parents: Matthew C. Bible and Janet T. Mayfield
Grandparents: Gene Bible and the late Sue Ann Bible and Jim and Betty Holloway
Activities: football and student council for exceptional children
Plans: teach and coach football at the high school level



Dr. Stephen George Luckey Jr., Ph. D.
School: Michigan Technological University, Houghton, Michigan
Clan: Wind
Family: wife, Amy Jo and daughters Jillian and Madelyn
Parents: Stephen and Dolly Luckey of Mounds
Grandparents: Joe Joen Edward of Coweta, the late Margaret Edwards of Bixby, Medford and Lillie Luckey of Calvin
Plans: Currently employed by the Ford Motor Company in Dearborn, Michigan



Janice Marie Birdcreek
School: Seminole State College with an associates in child development
Parents: Wallace and Elouise Johnson
Family: husband, Roger and son, Emery
Plans: currently employed with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Headstart program as the Health/Mental Health Coordinator. Plans to continue her education at Bacone for the fall semester



Natalie McClain
School: Konawa High School
Parents: Serena Alexander and Dennis McClain
Grandparents: Les and Salina Alexander
Awards: beta club, FCCLA, student council, principal’s honor roll
Activities: fast pitch softball and basketball
Plans: attend ECU and major in nursing



Jayne Nicole Chuckluck
School: Commerce High School
Parents: Greg & Felicia Chuckluck
Grandparents: Felix and Gloria Haynes and Bridge and Lynn Chuckluck
Awards: honorable mention for all conference for softball
Activities: softball, spanish club, FCLA, science club, band for two years, coached an 8 & under girls softball team
Plans: to attend NEO-Miami and is currently employed with McDonald’s and Dollar General.



Richard Simpson Ray
School: Citadel, the Military college of South Carolina with a Bachelor’s Degree of Art in English
Parents: Mr. and Mrs. Paul W. Ray, Jr.
Grandparents: Wayne Ray and the late Helen Ray, Great Grandparents: the late Simpson and Gladys Wilson and the late Rufus and Maud Ray
Awards: Navy ROTC scholarship, Capt. Carl H. Josephson Navy Memorial Sword



Native Veteran remembered and honored

"Hatak would make the big decision to join the military, he always felt it would be a part of his life, but not exactly when. Hatak chose the Marines because as family members say "he was influenced by past veterans and warriors."

By **GERALD WOFFORD**
MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — From time to time, the ultimate sacrifice is called upon Native American Veterans serving in the military. The loss of a young life is gone forever, but the veteran's status becomes legendary and his life honorably remembered. Since the beginning of recorded history, conflicts have faced men, exploits are shared and remembered of great soldiers giving their all for a belief they strongly hold to. For many tribes, the act of 'counting coup' was the highest honor and stories were shared of tribes in battle and young men earning the title of 'Warrior'.

In these modern times, it is not just the male who earns the title of warrior, but women such as Hopi Tribal member



Lori Piestewa who also fought and died for her country. Stories will always be told of brave warriors fighting in places such as Battan, Hamburger Hill, Horse-shoe Bend, Somme-and also in Iraq.

As the conflict in Iraq increases so do those odds of young warriors not returning home to a warm home, a good meal and a loving family.

On May 14 of this year, Lance Corporal Hatak Yearby was killed while serving in Iraq. Hatak (pronounced 'HATAKE'), along with Lance Corporal Jose S. Martin Dominguez, Jr. of Liberal, Kansas died when the military vehicle they were riding in struck a mine. The young soldiers were conducting combat operations in the Al Anbar Province.

Hatak was a 2003 graduate of Marietta High School. While there, he excelled in the game of football and showed his warrior ability at an early age.

Hatak, who was of Creek, Seminole, and Choctaw descent was a young man who was always willing to perform his responsibilities when called upon. Family members say that Hatak was always appreciative of his "Native Warrior" heritage and knew that the total warrior not only fought on the field of battle,

but was also the total warrior in every area of his life. That's why when High School was over, Hatak knew there were more of life's battles to be fought, more life wars to be won.

What was also a major part of his connection to his warrior heritage was at a young age, he would accompany his father, Justin, to ceremonial dances and would watch how the young and old soldiers were honored before and after the ceremonies. How those who gave their lives, those who fought and defended their fellow man were revered, and how a victory song was even sung in different languages for the soldiers. The experiences would greatly influence the young Indian boy who began to see a part of his destiny being shaped.

Hatak liked to Powwow dance and was quite good at it. Competing in contests while dressed in his 'rig', Hatak would win many awards for his talent. His other skills shone in the press as well. Hatak appeared on a magazine for *Upward Bound*, a program that provides opportunities for participants to succeed in pre-college performance and ultimately in higher education pursuits. Hatak created a headdress from a T-shirt while also being a participant of the program.

The end of public school also meant the mark for other decisions in his life. After attending Southeastern State University in Durant, Hatak would make the big decision to join the military, he always felt it would be a part of his life, but didn't know when. Hatak chose the Marines, because as family members say "he was influenced by past veterans and warriors."

But, Hatak, whose first name means 'free man' had a big decision to make. One that would fulfill him being a sol-

"The very next morning, Hatak immediately got up and told his Mom, Mary not only about his dream, but from that point on, what he knew he had to do."

dier in a force that was not actually born of traditional native heritage and didn't adhere to all native rules. Hatak had always taken pride in his appearance of being a Native American Warrior. That was apparent in his long braided hair, a traditional trait that is held with religious regard in so many American Indian societies. This was also one way in which family and friends knew the personality of Hatak, by his long jet black hair. Since he was a child, scissors had never



He touched his hair, but now what would he do? Hatak was fully aware that in order to join a unique fighting force such as the U.S. Marines would eventually mean the loss of his long hair and braids. He knew their would be sacrifices and changes to his life, but now they were staring him right in the face.

But signs and sub-liminal meanings often help Native Americans in reaching important decisions. So it was one evening, that Yearby made up his mind. Yearby had a close friend by the name of Wilson Roberts. Yearby told Roberts about a dream about his braids and how it was important that he lose them by cutting them off. The very next morning, Hatak immediately got up and told his Mom, Mary, not only about the dream, but from that point on, what he knew he had to do. It was December of 2004 now and the family accepted the fact that Hatak, like so many of his relatives before him, would go on and protect his homeland through military service. The end of the year and Christmas Holidays didn't slow down Hatak's decision, the dream confirmed what he felt in his heart and he immediately enlisted with the U.S. Marine Corps. After boot camp, Hatak was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, his military training would be at the Marine Corps Base in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii.

Hatak's mind wasn't all on duty and responsibility though, a young lady by the name of Lindsey Poythress of Ardmore was as well. The couple had been dating for three years now and knew marriage to each other would be a part of their lives one day. But once Hatak had made up his mind that military duty would come and he had officially signed up, he didn't want to wait any longer, so he quickly sped things up, and asked the love of his life for her hand in marriage.

It didn't take her long to say yes,

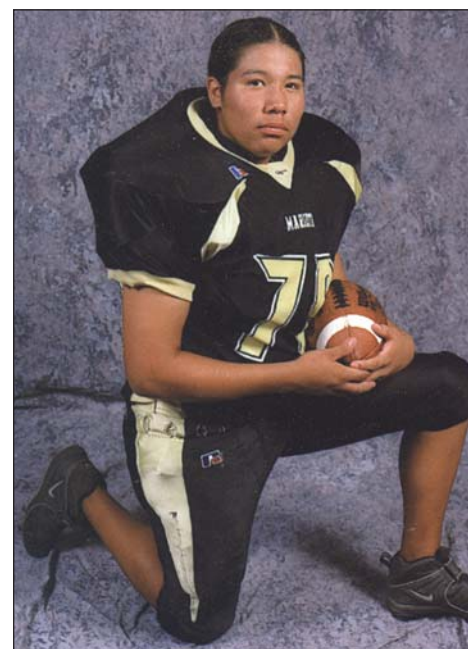
and one fulfillment of his came true. The couple were married on February 10. After his tour of duty would be over, Hatak and Lindsey looked to many long years together.

But the life of a serviceman was fast approaching and soon he would say goodbye to Lindsey, powwow dancing, good Indian jokes and supportive family and friends. But not without one last happytime-the day of his birthday. The next day, he would leave for Iraq.

Hatak would find the rigors of military service tough, but he was up to the challenge. The warm winds and tropic sun of the Hawai-

ian islands where he was stationed didn't soften the physical regimen he endured. Besides, after it was over, Hatak was a full-pledged Marine now.

Millions of American men and women have served their country admirably, many of them never have to face combat duty during their time of service. Others, who volunteered or were drafted served when the country was in 'peacetime' and never had to shoot a gun at another human being. That does not make their service and duty any less important. Only by the fates, grace of God, or just plain luck, they did not have to face such hostile forces. But others like Hatak did, and it is with this tribute we give thanks to a young Indian Marine who knew that a conflict in a foreign country was already taking place and made the decision anyway to step forward and serve his country. Other U.S. military casualties have happened since May 14, and many more will occur, and many of them will be Native American. So *myto* to all who serve! If you would like to donate to the Hatak Yearby Memorial Endowed Scholarship fund, please mail donation to: Southeastern Foundation 1405 N. 4th Avenue, PMB 4187 Durant, Oklahoma 74701-9905. (If paying by check, write in memo area: Hatak Yearby Scholarship) Thank you from the Yearby family.



Better Times-Hatak Yearby, fourth from right, with fellow powwow dancers at the 2004 Tulsa Powwow.

Session

continued from A3

TION ESTABLISHING MCNCA TITLE 41, CHAPTER 1, ENTITLED “BISON HERD MANAGEMENT;” PROVIDING AUTHORITY FOR DISPOSITION OF BISON HERD STOCK AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE BISON HERD MANAGEMENT PLAN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** (\$1,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **THOMAS McINTOSH**, MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **TRAVIS SCOTT**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; AND **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-086**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW BRUSH TRUCK AND NECESSARY EQUIPMENT FOR THE OLIVE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT SPONSOR: **DUKE HARJO** (\$56,935.00)
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-089**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE 2003 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 02-123, AS AMENDED BY NCA 04-150 AND NCA 05-281, TO ALLOW FOR CHANGES IN GOALS AND TO ADD AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**; CO-SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES**
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-090**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE 2001 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 01-090, AS AMENDED BY NCA 03-061 SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-091**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE LITTLE CUSSETAH INDIAN BAPTIST CHURCH OF SAPULPA, OKLAHOMA FOR A 12-PASSENGER VAN SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$26,788.00)

CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO ADD REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** AS CO-SPONSOR

- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-093**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE 2002 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 02-098, TO ALLOW FOR CHANGES IN GOALS AND ADDING AFFORDABLE HOUSING ACTIVITIES SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**
- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (21-2-0) **NCA 06-096**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FARM OPERATION FISCAL YEAR 2006 OPERATING BUDGET SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** (\$169,814.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKGOGEE DISTRICT AND **SYLVANNA CALDWELL**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT;

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-097**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE HANNA INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 12-PASSENGER VAN SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$29,000.00)
- APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-2-0) **NCA 06-098**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**; CO-SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE** (\$65,262.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT AND **RON CLEGHORN**, TULSA DISTRICT;

REPRESENTATIVE **PAULA WILLITS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-100**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 05-284 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE PASSENGER VANS FOR THE DEWAR, TWIN HILLS, WILSON, TULSA AND WETUMKA CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTERS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR CREEK ELDERS AND OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBERS) SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**

REPRESENTATIVE **PAULA WILLITS** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-101**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 05-248 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE 24 MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CHARTERED COMMUNITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENHANCING AND ENRICHING THE 2005 CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES FOR CITIZENS) SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-103**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-029 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-

THORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE PURCHASE OF ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS FOR CREEK CITIZENS WHO ARE DIABETIC) SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON**- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (19-4-0) **NCA 06-106**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, 4-102, 104, 106, 108, 109, 110 AND 111 TO RE-ASSIGN THE AUTHORITY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING FROM THE DIVISION OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION TO THE CONTROLLER’S OFFICE WITHIN THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE**
- VOTING NO WERE: **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **BO JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **SHIRLENE ADE**, TUKVPTCE DISTRIC; AND **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER DISTRICT;
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-107**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE BUCKEYE CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH OF OKEMAH, OKLAHOMA FOR A 15-PASSENGER VAN SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT** (\$28,165.65)
- APPROVED (21-2-0) **NCA 06-108**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 30, CHAPTER 1, “LEGISLATION”, AS AMENDED BY NCA 03-192 AND NCA 04-159, TO PROVIDE FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF ADDITIONAL CODE BOOK SETS, POCKET PART UPDATES, AND SUPPLEMENTS TO OFFICIALS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-109**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MYSKOKE LANGUAGE PROGRAM THROUGH THE DIVISION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **JAMES JENNINGS** (\$224,297.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-110**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-151 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE HOLDENVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY CASINO PROJECT) TO AUTHORIZE SPECIFIC CONTRACTS TO BE SOLE-SOURCED TO SELECTED CONTRACTORS SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA**

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-111**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF 10% FOR THE NATURAL RESOURCES FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-112**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE FY 2006 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **NCA 06-113**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PROVIDE 300 CUSTOM MADE SERVICE BRANCH VESTS FOR MUSCOGEE VETERANS SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **K. JOHNSON**; **T. PICKERING**; **B. JOHNSON**; **R. JONES**; **T. YAHOLA**; **C. QUIETT**; **P. BEAVER**; **S. ALEXANDER**; **J. GREENE**; **G. TIGER**; **R. BARNETT**; **S. ADE**; **L. BIBLE**; **D. HARJO** (\$20,000.00)
- DIED FOR LACK OF A MOTION, **NCA 06-114**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM TO ASSIST WITH FUNDING THE DIABETES WALKING PROGRAM SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING** (\$53,536.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** WAS OUT OF SEAT AT THE TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

- **FAILED (9-14-0) NCA 06-115**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN FOR A MISSION TRIP TO INDIA SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$4,500.00)
- POSTPONED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-116**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MORRIS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A RADIO REPEATER SYSTEM AND A 200 GALLON PORTABLE DUMP TANK SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$3,500.00)
- APPROVED (17-6-0) **NCA 06-117**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-

TION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TWIN HILLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF A PORTABLE 32-CHANNEL RADIO SYSTEM WITH PAGING CAPABILITY SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$3,500.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT; **TRAVIS SCOTT**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **THOMAS YAHOLA**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT; AND **RON CLEGHORN**, TULSA DISTRICT;

- POSTPONED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-118** A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TWIN HILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY TO PURCHASE A COMPUTER-TO-TELEVISION INTERFACE FOR INTERNET MONITORING FOR THE PURPOSE OF ALLOWING CITIZENS TO VIEW MEETINGS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON** (\$759.40)
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-119**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE SUPREME COURT FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION CLERK AND RECEPTIONIST SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$21,215.00)
- APPROVED (23-0-0) **NCA 06-120**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION COMMISSIONERS’ TRAVEL AND MILEAGE SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$10,000.00)
- APPROVED (21-2-0) **NCA 06-122**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO FINANCIALLY ASSIST AN ENROLLED MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. ALEXANDER**; **C. QUIETT**; **R. CLEGHORN** (\$2,500.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER DISTRICT AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**, WAGONER DISTRICT.

MAY 30, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED ARE: **LARRY BIBLE**, **ANTHONY NOTARO** AND **TOM PICKERING** EXCUSED AT HIS DISCRETION.

SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (22-0-0) **TR 06-081**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT LEASE FOR REAL PROPERTY WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HEALTH FACILITY SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING**
- APPROVED (22-0-0) **TR 06-084**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE THE TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMITS WITH JAKE’S FIREWORKS, INC. FOR THE OPERATION OF ONE TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND TO BENEFIT THE TULSA CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN**;
- APPROVED (22-0-0) **TR 06-085**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT TWO TO CONSTRUCTION LOAN AGREEMENT WITH JPMORGAN CHASE, N.A. REGARDING THE KOWETA INDIAN HEALTHCARE FACILITY SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING**;

REPRESENTATIVE **TOM PICKERING** EXCUSED. THEREFORE, TWENTY-TWO PRESENT AND FOUR ABSENT;

- APPROVED (21-0-0) **TR 06-086**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUPPORTING THE NATIVE VOTE UNITED TO ENCOURAGE VOTER PARTICIPATION AT THE LOCAL, STATE AND NATIONAL LEVEL SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**;
- APPROVED (20-1-0) **NCA 06-130**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING ADDITIONAL FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING LOCATED AT THE OMNIPLEX SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$1,500,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;

REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH QUIETT** ARRIVED. THEREFORE, TWENTY-THREE PRESENT AND THREE

ABSENT.

JUNE 15, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED ARE: **LARRY BIBLE**, **BILL FIFE** AND **LENA WIND**.

ABSENT WERE: **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **ROBERT JONES**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **LARRY BIBLE**, TULSA DISTRICT;

SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

IN ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED (21-0-0) **TR 06-087**, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A TEMPORARY OPERATING PERMIT WITH AMERICAN PROMOTIONAL EVENTS, INC., FOR THE OPERATION OF ONE TEMPORARY FIREWORKS SALES FACILITY ON TRIBAL TRUST LAND TO BENEFIT THE GLENPOOL CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN**; CO-SPONSOR: **S. ALEXANDER**;

SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER** RELINQUISHED THE CHAIR TO SECOND SPEAKER **ROGER BARNETT** TO ADDRESS NCA 06-132.

- APPROVED (16-4-1) **NCA 06-132**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ENACTING A LIQUOR AND BEVERAGE CODE AND CODIFYING SAID LAW IN TITLE 36, “TAXATION AND REVENUE,” OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **THOMAS YAHOLA**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT; **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER;

ABSTAIN WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT;

- APPROVED (16-4-1) **NCA 06-134**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 21, “GAMING,” CHAPTER 5, “RULES OF OPERATION AND GENERAL APPLICABILITY,” TO ALLOW FOR THE SALE AND CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AT GAMING FACILITIES APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL AND DULY LICENSED BY THE TAX COMMISSION SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **THOMAS YAHOLA**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT; **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER DISTRICT;

ABSTAIN WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT;

- APPROVED (16-4-1) **NCA 06-136**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 14, “CRIME AND PUNISHMENT,” CHAPTER 2, “CRIMINAL OFFENSES,” SUBCHAPTER 7, “CRIMES AGAINST PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY,” TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF LIQUOR AND/OR BEER WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **THOMAS YAHOLA**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT; **RICHARD BERRYHILL**, WAGONER DISTRICT;

ABSTAIN WERE: **EDDIE LAGRONE**, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT;

SECOND SPEAKER **ROGER BARNETT** TURNED THE CHAIR BACK OVER TO SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**.

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (21-0-0) **NCA 06-155**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH FISCAL YEAR 2006 BUDGET SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$113,643.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **THOMAS YAHOLA**, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT.

CLINT HAWKINS

AMARILLO, Texas — Funeral services for Clint C. Hawkins were held June 17 at The Church at Quail Creek with Rev. Dale Moreland officiating.

He was born June 20, 1955, in Okemah to Jess and Leah Hawkins.

Hawkins was a graduate of Palo Duro High School.

He married the former Juanita Avila on June 18, 1983, in Amarillo.

Clint loved sports, softball was one of his favorites. He played for many years.

He worked for Kast Marble and Amarillo Marble before becoming ill.

Preceding him in death was his parents and six brothers.

Survivors include: his wife of Amarillo; six sisters, Ann Van Damme, Winnie Woods, both of Amarillo, Jean Gallagher of Altus, June Babb of El Cajon, California, Sarah Behling of San Benito and Louise Marris of Gatesville; and a host of nephews, nieces and friends.

MARTHA PHILLIPS

EUFULA — Funeral services for Martha Francis Phillips were held June 24 at Gregg Funeral Home Chapel with Rueben Kelly officiating.

She was born September 30, 1923 to the late Thomas Francis and Christie Charity (Charles) Francis in Eufaula.

Martha attended school at Deeres Chapel and graduated from the eighth grade. Following school she held various jobs until her marriage to William “Willie” Phillips on June 10, 1951.

She worked at the Ammunition plant in McAlester for a short time and later worked for Creek Nation Head Start as a cook until

retirement in the late 80’s. She was also a caregiver for the Creek Nation.

Martha loved quilt making and giving them as gifts to her family and friends. Sewing and collecting turtles were some of her favorite hobbies. Martha was a member of the Artussee Indian Baptist church and was active in the Eufaula Indian Community.

Preceding her in death was: her husband; parents; two sons, Thomas Phillips and William Phillips Jr.; daughter, Patricia East; ten siblings, Wadie, David and July Francis, Mattie Fields, Polly Marshall, Betty McGirt, Irene Cricklin, Robert, Nina and Lily Francis.

Survivors include: five sons, Raymond Tiger of Eufaula, Bill Phillips of Muskogee, Anthony and Adam East of Oklahoma City and Matthew Phillips of Eufaula; daughters, Anna King of Tulsa, Alice Osborn of Okay, Rosemary of Kansas City, Missouri, Stephanie Williams of Oklahoma City and brother William Francis of Kansas City, Missouri.

Pallbearers were: Francis and Jackie Lewis, Joe McGirt, Robert Francis, Steve Marshall and William Jesse Phillips.

Honorary pallbearers included: Anthony and Adam East, Sam Marshall, Charlie



Phillips

Dowling and Elliot Fields.

Interment was at the Charles Family Cemetery.

SHARON SMITH

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Sharon Kay Smith were held June 3 at Middle Creek Indian Baptist Church #1 with Rev. Don Tiger and Duane Wesley officiating.

She was born January 24, 1958 in Wetumka to Rev. James Wesley and Minnie Yargee Wesley.

Sharon was raised in Wetumka and attended Central Grade School and Wetumka Junior High and High School, graduating in 1976. She later attended Tulsa Job Corps and graduated in 1978. She professed faith in Jesus Christ and was baptized by her father on August 17, 1969.

On April 23, 1982, she was married to Mark Smith. She was a women’s leader at Middle Creek Indian Baptist Church #1 and was very active in church affairs. Smith served as Sunday School teacher and song leader and was often asked to sing special music at other churches in the area. She had also participated on several mission trips with the MSW Association. She loved butterflies and hummingbirds and would always set out feeders and plant flowers.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Survivors include: her husband, Mark of the home; three children, Ashley, Aston and Matthew of the home; three brothers, Gary Wesley of Oklahoma City, Lowell Wesley of Wetumka and Leo Wesley of Arlington, Texas; sister, Geraldine Harjo of Dallas; along with several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, other relatives and many friends.

Pallbearers were: Roley McIntosh; Larry Morrow; Myron Sekayouma; Lymon Yargee; James Scott and Mike Smith.

Honorary pallbearers were: Duane, Todd and Aaron Wesley and Tim and Billy Ray Smith.

Interment was at the Carson Cemetery.

WILLIAM TIGER

HONOLULU — Funeral services for William Merle Tiger were held June 4.

He was born October 17, 1940 in Wagoner, Oklahoma to Andrew J. Tiger and Mary Ruth Page Tiger.

William graduated from Armijo High School in Fairfield, California. In 1963, after three years in the Navy, he moved to Hawaii and met his wife, Mary Kehaulani. He owned and operated “Tiger Hawaii” for more than 12 years.

He helped form the Intertribal Council of Hawaii. They hosted an annual powwow, holiday party in December and numerous educational presentations throughout the year.

He is survived by: his wife; two children and three grandchildren.



Tiger

June District Court filings

- Civil:**
- Security Finance v. Rochelle Hicks Small Claims
 - In the Matter of: Sarah Aline Chubbee now McClour Determination of Paternity
 - Janice Lee and Kelly Ashford v. MCN Health EPC
 - Community Hospital Lakeview v. Linda Casey Small Claims
 - Security Finance v. Christine Kaler Small Claims
 - Community Hospital Lakeview v. Robin & or Steven Salmans Small Claims
 - Terry Thompson v. MCN Office of Public Gaming Petition
 - Divorce:**
 - Melissa Rider v. Michael Rider
 - Marva A. Proctor v. Brian M. Proctor
 - Gwen Taylor v. Joe Robert Taylor
 - Rose Vance v. Roger Vance
 - Family Domestic:**
 - Tribal Child Support Services, Kimberly Sue Wheeler Shed v. Richard Pangle Child Support
 - Criminal Felony:**
 - MCN v. Jonathan McCurry Ct. 1 Poss. of Firearm After a Former Conviction
 - MCN v. Addy Topping Ct. 1 Poss. of Firearm In or About the Creek Nation
 - MCN v. Charles Studie Ct. 1&2 Aggravated Battery
 - Ct. 3 Poss. of Drugs w/intent
 - Ct. 4 Poss. of Drug Para.
 - MCN v. Jess Bell Ct. 1 Receiving Stolen Property
 - Ct. 2 Poss. of Illegal Drugs
 - MCN v. Bobby McNutt Ct. 1 Poss. of Stolen Property
 - Ct. 2 Poss. of Illegal Drugs
 - Ct. 3 Poss. of Drug Para.
 - MCN v. Michelle Bagby Ct. 1 Poss. of Illegal Drugs
 - Ct. 2 Poss. of Drug Para.
 - Traffic:**
 - MCN v. Karen Rowan Failure to wear Safety Belt
 - MCN v. Phillip Lieberman Poss. of Illegal Drug
 - MCN v. Robin Nelson Invalid Drivers License
 - MCN v. Jennifer Barns Invalid Drivers License
 - MCN v. John Booker Invalid Drivers License
 - MCN v. John Booker No Insurance
 - MCN v. Curtis Lawson Driving Under Suspension
 - MCN v. Curtis Lawson No Insurance
 - MCN v. Curtis Lawson

- Driving w/o Required Registration
- MCN v. Judy Hammer No Insurance
 - MCN v. Georgia McKee Poss. of Illegal Drugs
 - MCN v. Georgia McKee Poss. of Drug Para.
 - MCN v. Christie Epperson Poss. of Illegal Drugs w/Intent to Distribute
 - MCN v. Christie Epperson Poss. Of Illegal Drug Para.
 - MCN v. Christie Epperson Carrying Weapons in or about Bldgs. On Tribal Land
 - MCN v. Tony Basore Disorderly Conduct
 - MCN v. James Wright Failure to Wear Seat Belt
 - MCN v. Donald Weaver Poss. Of Alcohol on Tribal Land
 - MCN v. Crystal Young Expired Tag
 - MCN v. Nita Guthery Disorderly Conduct
 - MCN v. Nita Guthery Disorderly Conduct
 - MCN v. Sarah Stroble Driving w/o License
 - MCN v. Sarah Stroble No Valid Insurance
 - MCN v. Johnny Camacho No Drivers License
 - MCN v. Johnny Camacho No Insurance
 - MCN v. Nicole Bolles Poss. of Illegal Drug
 - MCN v. Nicole Bolles Poss. Of Illegal Drug Para.
 - MCN v. Jennifer Sutton Poss. of Illegal Drugs
 - MCN v. Jennifer Sutton Poss. of Illegal Drug Para.
 - MCN v. Jennifer Sutton Poss. of Alcohol on Tribal Land

Legal Notices

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF: C.B. D.R., D.R. and C.R. Deprived Children Case No. JV-2004-13

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: Tallo Williams, Ray Williams, Kevin Barnes and Jared Black

YOU ARE HEREBY GIVEN NOTICE that a Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed against you in the above-styled and numbered cause and will be heard in the District Courtroom of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Tribal Complex in Okmulgee, Oklahoma on the 22nd day of August, 2006 at 9:00 A.M.

YOU ARE HEREBY INFORMED that it is sought by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that the Children and Family Services

Administration for continued foster placement or possible pre-adoptive placement.

YOU ARE FURTHER INFORMED that you have the right to be represented by legal counsel at this hearing.

I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of June, 2006.

/s/ Patrick E. Moore District Court Judge

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE CREEK NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Plaintiff vs. 1994 Honda Accord VIN #1HBCB7146MA002452 CASE NO: CV-2006-06

NOTICE OF SEIZURE AND INTENDED FORFEITURE

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION: Cynthia Fultz-Tottress, 2610 E. 88th Street, Apt. 8, Tulsa, OK 74137, Julius Ball, 1316 N. Boston Ave., Tulsa, OK 74105 and Nick “Neno” Williams, 13119 E. 29th Street, Tulsa, OK 74134 and all others claiming an interest in the above described property.

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has seized and intends to forfeit the above described property under the provisions of MCNCA Title 22 § 2-102, et seq.

Said vehicle was seized on or about the 10th day of November, 2004, from said Julius Ball and forfeiture is sought for the reasons that said was used for the purpose of distributing illegal drugs and the illegal drugs were unlawfully possessed by an occupant thereof;

The owner, claimant or other party in interest may file a verified answer and claim to the above named property within forty-five days of notice after which time the Muscogee (Creek) Nation will move the Court for an Order of Forfeiture for said property.

Respectfully submitted, /s/ Shannon Cozzoni, MCN #181 PO Box 580 Okmulgee, OK 74447

BEFORE THE CORPORATION COMMISSION OF OKLAHOMA APPLICANT: LANCE RUFFEL OIL & GAS CORPORATION, RELIEF REQUESTED: POOLING CAUSE CD NO. 200605562 LEGAL DESCRIPTION: SE/4 NW/4 OF SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 8 NORTH, RANGE 8 EAST, SEMINOLE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA,

NOTICE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: To: William Frank McDonnell, formerly Johnson, Eddie Wayne McDonnell, Randy McGirt, Sally McGirt, Anita Lynne McDonnell Thomson, formerly Johnson, Superintendent Okmulgee Agency, Musco-

gee (Creek) Nation Realty/Trust Services Office, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office, Division of Real Estate Services, Branch of Subsurface Leasing; and all persons, owners, producers, operators, purchasers and takers of oil and gas, and if any of the above are deceased or any named individuals or companies are no longer in existence, then the unknown successors of said deceased individuals and defunct companies, and all other interested persons, particularly in Seminole County, Oklahoma.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Applicant in this cause is requesting that the Corporation Commission issue an order pursuant to Title 52, Oklahoma Statutes, 1971, Section 87.1, adjudicating the rights and equities and pooling all interests of all owners in the Booch, Hartshorne, Gilcrease, Cromwell, Misener, Hunton, First Wilcox and Second Wilcox separate common sources of supply, being a 40 acre drilling and spacing unit underlying the SE/4 NW/4 of Section 28, Township 8 North, Range 8 East, Seminole County, Oklahoma, as established by Oklahoma Corporation Commission Order to be issued in Cause CD No. 200605561, set to be heard by the Oklahoma Corporation Commission on the 25th day of July, 2006.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the Applicant in this cause is requesting the following special relief: Applicant will designate itself or some other party as Operator of the unit and test well and requests that such order provide a period of one year from the date of the order for said operator to commence operations for the drilling of the proposed well.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause be set before an Administrative Law Judge for hearing, taking of evidence and reporting to the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that this cause will be heard before an Administrative Law Judge on the Initial Hearing Docket at the Corporation Commission, First Floor, Jim Thorpe Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, at 8:30 a.m., on the 25th day of July, 2006, and that this notice be published as required by law and the rules of the Commission.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the applicant and interested parties may present testimony by telephone. The cost of telephonic communication shall be paid by the person or persons requesting its use. Interested parties who wish to participate by telephone shall contact Applicant or Applicant’s attorney, prior to the hearing date, and provide their name and phone number.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that all interested persons may appear and be heard. For information concerning this action, contact Diane Moershel, Attorney, 120 N. Robinson, Suite 2109, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73102, (405) 236-5938.

HOT CORNER

BY

JASON SALSMAN

What's up everyone! It's July, so swing the bats, light the fireworks, cook the burgers and dogs.....wow, can I fit any more July stereotypes in this first sentence? All kidding aside we have a lot to talk about.

First off soccer's World Cup is wrapping up and Wimbledon tennis is in full swing. You know what, they'll find Jimmy Hoffa before I ever mention those two sports in this column again!

The NBA Finals concluded a sensational playoff season for the NBA. I would be hard pressed to remember a year since the Jordan era that pro basketball's second season was filled with such high drama. There were suspensions, great games, bad officiating, dazzling individual performances....this year's postseason had the works! I have to say Dwayne Wade of the Miami Heat has really taken the torch and left town when it comes to being "the guy." If you do not think that he established himself as THE elite player during the NBA finals against the Dallas Mavericks then you must have been watching a different series. He may not lead the league in scoring every year, but it would be difficult to find a player with more drive and determination to win. He does whatever it takes to win, and that is why he is so fun to watch.

As you may know I am a huge baseball fan, and I take pride in the National League. I think the Senior Circuit is the purest form of baseball there is. Why do I want to go see a designated hitter? Some guy that can't field a position but can swing a bat. Come on, whatever happened to the complete ballplayer, the five-tooler? I mean the greatest slugger that ever played the game, was a pitcher first! BUT, having said that.....I'm a little disappointed with my National Leaguers. They have flat-out stunk up the joint in Interleague play. The American League has not only won the majority of the games, they have absolutely dominated. Only two teams in the National League, the Rockies and Marlins, have winning records. I heard one "analyst" say that it speaks to the existence of more talent in the American League. That's definitely not true, I mean the best player on the planet is in the National League (ahem, St. Louis's Albert Pujols) so there is not a talent gap by any means. I think the National League just needs to man up and start playing better ball. Besides, I'd much rather have a bad Interleague and a good World Series. We'll have to wait and see on that.

The OU baseball team ended their season one game away from the College World Series and officially kicked off football hysteria here in Oklahoma. They have already filmed the entrance videos that will usher the Sooners onto the field this year! You know what they say in these parts, it's never too early to get hyped about Sooner football. I am a little extra excited as the 2006 season draws near. On September 9, yours truly will be in Norman for the game against the University of Washington. And even though I'll be clad in crimson and cream, my job that day will be to swap stories with a Washington legend. You see, back in the old days the reins of the Huskies' offense were in the hands of a hot-shot Native American quarterback with one of college sports' all-time greatest surnames. Sonny Sixkiller will be in town cheering on the Huskies, and I'll be picking his brain about his run and near capture of the Heisman trophy, starring opposite Burt Reynolds in "The Longest Yard," and about the state of Native American athletes in today's sports world. Sixkiller captured the intrigue of the American public back in his playing days at Washington and it will undoubtedly be a great honor to sit down with him and chat.

Just want to let everyone know that the festival didn't kill me. Sure, I ran myself ragged trying to keep up with everything but I managed to sneak in a little softball as well. See you in August, when it will probably be even hotter. I think I'm moving to Alaska!

"Superchief" Was One of a Kind

By Jason Salsman

MNN Sports Reporter

Over the course of time many Native American athletes have dotted the sports history books with their unforgettable performances.

Jim Thorpe is considered perhaps the greatest athlete of all time, successful at just about every sport he tried. Nobody could forget Billy Mills' historic dash to the front of the pack during the 1964 Olympic Games to claim the 10,000 meter gold medal in what is now simply called "The Kick." And when considering all the great Native athletes and their accomplishments it is impossible to leave out Allie Reynolds.

Reynolds, part Cherokee and Creek, was born and raised in Oklahoma and went on to great fame as a reliable pitcher and reputable teammate for the New York Yankees organization from 1946 to 1954.

He did not start out on the baseball path right away, however, as he went to what is now Oklahoma State on a track scholarship. When his body had built up, he joined the baseball team and went on to have immense success while there. For proof of that, look no further than the current baseball stadium at Oklahoma State University, which is named after him.

Reynolds' first game in the big leagues came with the Cleveland Indians in 1942. Four years later his career would forever change as he was traded to the New York Yankees. In his first year in the Big Apple "Superchief," a nickname given to him by his Yankee teammates, paid immediate dividends for the Bronx Bombers recording the highest winning percentage in the American League that year. In 1950, he shrugged off painful bone spurs in his elbow and still racked up 16 wins. The '51 season might have been the banner year in Reynolds' career. That year he became the first American League pitcher to throw two no-hitters in the same season and he also took home the Hickok Belt, which was given to the top professional athlete of the year.

He did not slow down the next year either, picking up 20 wins and leading the league in strikeouts with 160. He was unlike any other pitcher of his time with his ability to start a game or come in and hold a lead or close it out. It led to high praise from his manager at the time, Casey Stengel. "Reynolds is two ways great, which is starting and relieving, which no one can do like him."

Superchief decided to hang up the cleats in 1954 but not before he had built a tremendously successful career. When it was all said and done Reynolds had made 125 relief appearances and 309 starts, appeared in five All-Star games and won six World Series championships. In his eight seasons with the Yankees, Reynolds won 131 games while losing only 60. To the common eye, those numbers certainly look worthy of Hall of Fame consideration but Reynolds has still not made it to Cooperstown. Many believe Reynolds' relief duties have kept him out of the Hall, restrict-

ing the amount of victories he ended up with. Later in life Superchief offered an explanation to those critical of his

Allie Reynolds Award, which is given annually to "Oklahoma's outstanding high school senior, based on accom-

plishments, sports, civics, character and leadership."

Born in Bethany, Oklahoma as the son of a strict preacher, Allie Reynolds certainly carved out a legacy in this world, battling not only tough hitters throughout his career but diabetes as well. The disease, which Reynolds referred to as "the Indian disease," was an affliction Allie dealt with in the initial stages of his career without anyone knowing that he had it. Reynolds did not use it as an excuse, he just kept pitching. He overcame all obstacles to become a major success story not only in sports, but in life also. His example is one that all Native Americans should be proud to follow.

This was a courageous story of a player who found success even in the face of disease and at a time when Native Americans were not fully accepted. They do not make many Allie Reynolds' these days. This chief was indeed, super.

From the poem "Allie Reynolds" by Bob Palazzo

Allie was Native American
He was born a preacher's son
Making it to the majors,
Was the biggest game he'd won

Note: For more information on Allie Reynolds visit the web at <http://en.wikipedia.org>.



Allie Reynolds with baseball legend Joe DiMaggio

relief work. "My job was to help us win games," he said. "If pitching in relief helped us win, that was fine."

On August 26, 1989, with Yankee teammates Mickey Mantle, Whitey Ford and Phil Rizzuto by his side, Allie perhaps received the greatest honor of his career. A plaque was dedicated to Reynolds that still hangs in Yankee Stadium's historic Monument Park. The plaque refers to the fireballer as "One of the Yankees' greatest right-handed pitchers."

In 1993, he received the Jim Thorpe Lifetime Achievement Award, and a year later on the day after Christmas, he passed away. In his honor, the Jim Thorpe Association established the

Sapulpa Clinic

Sports Physicals

Offered to the first 44 athletes

Wednesday, July 12, 2006

Sapulpa Clinic Will be conducting sports physicals between 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

As a service to our Creek youth who are trying to prepare for the upcoming sports season. For more information contact Ronda Beaver at (918) 224-9310 ext. 241

The Sapulpa Clinic requests any child wanting a sports physical to complete the following:

- Establish a Chart from the Sapulpa Clinic
- Obtain sports Physical form from your local school
- A parent must be present at the physical. The above must be completed July 12th. This is important to allow them to process 44 athletes within the 3 hour period. Eye exam, diabetes review and education and other sports related examinations will be

MUSCOGEE NATION



FESTIVAL 2006

Preserving
our
culture
in a
changing
World



Festival Elderly Activities

ELDER NUTRITION CENTER-Several people turned out for the activities planned for the elders, enjoying company, contests, food and games. The quilt show contest, horseshoe tournament, and 18 games of bingo were among the activities provided during the festival for elders. Original Allottees were honored during these activities as well.



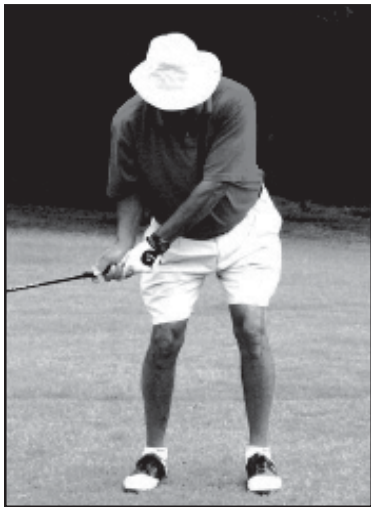
Koweta Clinic Grand Opening



KOWETA- On a beautiful day, described by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis as “one of the most important days for the Nation in many years” the Koweta Indian Health Facility was opened with great fanfare. State officials, tribal dignitaries, National Council members and a host of citizens and employees turned out for the big event. The 60, 000 square ft. facility is a marvel to look at with Native design and Muscogee artifact exhibits lining the hallways. The elegance and first-rate amneties of this building are a testament to the commitment the Creek Nation has to the best Health Care possible.

Golf Tournament

This year’s golf tournament, held again at Fountainhead State Park Golf Course on Lake Eufaula, was a swinging success with even more golfers showing up to test the field. Playing in very toasty conditions the golfers beared down and there were some low rounds turned in. The game of golf is quickly becoming another sport picked up by Native American athletes. With not many Natives represented on pro tours presently it will be interesting to watch the next few years and see if any Native golfers break through. It will be good for not only American Indian people but for the game of golf as well.



Art Festival



CREEK COUNCIL HOUSE MUSEUM-This year’s Art Festival, once again held in downtown Okmulgee at the historic Creek Council House Museum, was again a huge success. Several great Muscogee artists were out

showcasing their latest pieces of work. Just about every category of art was covered this year, ranging for paintings, to a beauty pageant, to music. The morning crowd got a taste of the music scene with Medicine Pony performing live. Many of the artists were showcasing traditional Native jewelry and clothing. With the efforts from the staff at the Council House Museum continuing, the Art Festival should only get better every year.



Entertainment

OMNIPLEX-The Claude Cox Omniplex was rockin Friday night as Charlie Redd and the Full Flava Kings took the stage to open this year’s festival entertainment. Their superb performance was followed by Native American entertainer/actress Irene Bedard and Deni. Then it was time for the headliner as Lou Gramm, lead singer of Foreigner, took the stage serenading the crowd with some familiar hits. The crowd was large and didn’t leave disappointed.



Fast Pitch Softball

OMNIPLEX-They were lettin ‘em fly this year on the Softball fields at the Claude Cox Omniplex. Several great softballers, men and women, were out showcasing their skills. Runs came at a premium with outstanding pitching at just about every game. It seems each year the competition gets tougher at the tournament and it was no different in 2006. With fast-pitch being such a popular sport theres no reason to think that will change in the coming years. The women’s championship went to Native Illusion’s with the runner-up A-NI-YU-WV. The men’s championship was nabbed by Next of Kin with runner-up being the Native American Comanches. Turning in MVP performances were Clint Baker, for the men, and Marge Johnson, for the women.



Parade

OKMULGEE- The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Festival Parade weaved it’s way through downtown Okmulgee this year with a little bit of everything. Tribal officials, lighthorsemen, fire trucks, horses and even some Indian Cars made there way through a throng of Muscogee citizens who had turned out for the event. Bad weather constantly threatened with dark skies overhead but the clouds simply provided great shade on an otherwise hot day and not a drop of rain fell. The Parade left a lot of citizens entertained and a lot of children with pockets full of candy.





5K(3.2 miles) Run

CREEK NATION COMLEX-The 5K Run which starts and ends on the grounds of the Tribal Capitol Complex, was full with a host of determined distance runners fixated on winning a race. Running is a sport that Native athletes have excelled in for many years and it continues to be a point of pride for the participants. Turning in a blistering time of 17:39 was Jamin Jones as he won the overall title in the Men’s Division. Kristine Wyat, with a time of 24:11, was the overall winner in the Women’s Division. Congratulations to not only the winners of the race but to all contestants for very well-ran races. We will be looking to the future with hopes of increased participation in the Run, knowing that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is taking every possible step to promote healthy lifestyles.

Horseshoe

OMNIPLEX- One of the most popular sports with Native American people is horseshoes. In fact most tribal citizens would not be able to say they didn’t know at least one person with a horseshoe pit in the yard. Let’s face it, if a horseshoe tournament was not part of the Creek Festival, there would be trouble. One of the most exciting events to watch, simply for the fact that there are some really good pitchers, the horseshoe tournament was again a highlight.



Adult Basketball

One of the more exciting and competitive events took place on the basketball courts just north of the Omniplex stage. The Adult Basketball tournament seems to be growing in popularity each year and the amount of teams in this years event speaks to that trend. Everything was offered from hustle, to great passes, fantastic shots and great sportsmanship. The tournament had it all and provided non-stop action for the onlookers.



Junior Rodeo

OMNIPLEX- On the rodeo grounds at the Omniplex on June 10 and 11 spectators were treated to what might be the future of rodeo. These youngsters were up to the challenge and provided a glimpse of the talents that are people have, irregardless of their age or physical stature. There were competitions for all ages and divisions including poles, flags, barrels, tie-down roping and calf roping.

Living Legends



OMNIPLEX- One of the more meaningful things each year for the Creek Nation is the Living Legends Ceremony. Created by Chief Ellis at last year’s festival, this ceremony is a tremendous way of the tribe showing their appreciation and admiration for Creek citizens who have lived a full life and represented their tribe with dignity. The event was emceed this year by National Council Speaker George Tiger and Native American actress/entertainer Irene Bedard. Among those honored at this year’s event were decorated combat veteran and Batan Death March survivor Phillip Coon and his dear wife Helen Coon. Also honored was Bob Arrington, who has given many years of service to the Creek Nation through coordination of the Festival Rodeo and through work with Creek Nation Roadways.

2006 Scholarship Pageant

This year’s pageant was held at Henryetta High School Auditorium on June 9-10. This year’s pageant was even more competitive than last year’s. “Tears were shed and scholarships were awarded”, said Jason Salsman. There were lots of great performances by the ladies and the winners really had to work this year to earn their scholarships. This year’s Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation was Melanie Frye. Junior Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation was Samantha Jackson. Division 3 Miss Muscogee (Creek) Nation was Ashleigh Johnson, Division 2 was Angel Johnson, Divion 1 was SaRae Butler. Congratulations to all the winners and participants. It was a showcase of the beauty and elegance of the Muscogee women and their value to our way of life.



Miss Muscogee Nation 2006
Melanie Amber Frye

Daughter of Johnny and Marion Bunny Frye. Melanie is of the Fvswvlke Clan and belongs to the Yofalv Kvnete Tribal Town. Her hobbies include singing and learning Creek hymns, learning the Creek language and participating in American Indian activities and groups at the University of Oklahoma. Melanie is looking forward to serving her Tribe as a positive role model.



Youth Olympics

OKMULGEE TRACK&FIELD- Harmon Stadium at Okmulgee High School is usually the “Home of the Bulldogs” but on this day it belonged to Muscogee youth. Several kids turned out to compete in various athletic competitions and show their stuff in a quest for the blue ribbon. Although there was only one winner from each competition, every child participating gave maximum effort in competing.



Youth Basketball

YMCA Center- Native American youth are starting to make their prescence known in the basketball world more with each year. Talent is manifested at various high school gymnasiums and summer tournaments around the state year-round. That talent found it’s way to the Okmulgee YMCA Basketball courts on June 16 as the youngsters showed their abilities and had a little fun at the same time.





Pow-Wow
COVELLE HALL AT OSU-OKMULGEE- Not only does the Muscogee(Creek) Nation have their own stompdance, but the festival hosted a pow-wow. It was a beautiful celebration showing the diversity of other tribes. Most Pow-Wow's represent a time of gathering and friendship with other cultures. Even though the Muscogee(Creek) Nation generally stompdance rather than participate in pow-wows, everyone was still very honored to host a pow-wow and to accept their gathering and friendship.



OMNIPLEX- The stompdance was a spectacular event starting around 6 and lasting around midnight. Everyone young and old participated in the stompdance singing along. If it were in the old ways people in the dance would have gone until they past out from exhaustion. Luckily no one passed out but they did leave with a feeling of their ancestors in the circle. This is what is keeping the tradition alive in the Creek Festival.

Volleyball

OMNIPLEX- They were settin', spikin' and scoring at the Volleyball courts located at the Claude Cox Omniplex where the action was non-stop. The heat was beating down on the players but that did little to stunt the determination of the teams as it was a fight to the finish to see who would come out on top. The tournament not only provided great competition but fun and fellowship as well.



OMNIPLEX-Slow pitch softball was just as exciting as it has always been with outstanding performances and great team effort making for a fantastic tournament. Several balls left the yard, and their were many defensive plays made that were ESPN highlight-worthy. In the end the Florida Seminoles took first avenging a near championship from last year's event. Here's how they finished.

- 1st- Florida Seminoles
- 2nd- Shades of Red
- 3rd- 4 Love of the Game

- Co-ed
- 1st - Swoosh
- 2nd -RBI's
- 3rd - Florida Seminoles



Hymn/Gospel Singing

This years Muscogee Nation Traditional Hymn Singing at Covelle Hall on the campus of OSU Okmulgee. Many Muscogee Hymns were sang, and those in attendance had the opportunity to fellowship with one another through one of the oldest facets of culture of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. On a similar note those in attendance at the Gospel singing at the OSU Extension Building on the Fair grounds were treated just as equally to a fine helping of music.



Honoring Original Allottee, Martha Berryhill



Children learn traditional arts and crafts during art show.



Youth particpate in Rodeo events



Living Legend, Helen Coon



Showing good sportmanship.



Artists displayed work for art show



Pageant contestant Samantha Jackson



Lou Gramm & Foriegner were a hit with the concerts crowd



Volleyball tournaments were very competitive.





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Festival Pow wow demonstration.



2005 Miss Muscogee(Creek) Nation sings song of appreciation to her mother during pageant events.



5 k Run



Youth compete in Junior Olympics race.



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September 2006

INSIDE SEPTEMBER'S ISSUE

SECTION A - Tribal



Inside Section A of *The Muscogee Nation News*: Ropes Course challenge at Eufaula Dormitory p. 5; Termination of the Veteran' Emergency Financial Assistance Program p. 7; Challenge Bowl to award first Annual Belvin Hill Memorial Scholarship p. 8.

SECTION B - Features



Section B of *The Muscogee Nation News*: 2006 Circle of Nations p.3; Artist is Ven-triloquist and Puppeteer p.5; California Creek Association holds 5th Annual meeting p. 6; NABI Tournament running full force in 2006 p. 8.

SECTION C - Constitution



Section C of *The Muscogee Nation News*: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, as amended through February 18, 2006.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

UPDATE FROM TRANSIT AUTHORITY MANAGER BEN CHANEY

The Transit Authority Office Headquarters building is nearing completion. The new building is approximately 3,000 square feet with a total cost of \$500,000, funded through the Indian Reservation Road Program. The Transit Authority and Federal Roads Program will occupy this building. All main stops for all daily routes will stop at this location, as well as a stop for daily city routes.

The move-in date is scheduled for the first or second week of September. A Grand Opening for the Transit Authority Building is set for September 28.

SEPTEMBER'S REMINDER

Beginning on Sept. 4, the Native News Today television program will be shown seven days a week at 9:30 p.m. on cable channel 70. Because of recent technical difficulties, Cox was unable to broadcast the television show. Because of the inconvenience this may have caused, Cox Communications will broadcast the show during the timeframe listed above free of charge.

Council Oak Tree Ceremony will be held Oct. 21 at 2 p.m. located on 18th and Cheyenne. For more information contact Cherrah Quiett at (918) 520-9161 or Ruth Bible at (918) 732-7642.

California Muscogee (Creek) Association's 5th Annual meeting



Tribal officials, such as Chief Ellis and Speaker George Tiger, and California Muscogee Creek Association (CMCA) board members and members of the community pose for a group photo following a meeting held at El Segundo, California on Aug. 5. *photo by Ruth Bible*

by Ruth Bible

MNN Staff Writer

CALIFORNIA — Principal Chief A.D. Ellis and tribal officials met with approximately 600 total California residents on Saturday Aug. 5, at El Segundo and on Sunday Aug. 6 at Oak Grove Park in Stockton.

Representatives from several tribal offices were present to answer questions from the area residents. Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Chief of Staff Mike Flud, Execu-

tive Director Claude Sumner, Tribal Affairs Director Allen Harjo, Judge Patrick Moore and Sue Ann Sparks Court Clerk explained the constitution amendments procedures with interested parties.

"We of the Creek Nation here in California are extremely grateful that Chief Ellis took time out from his busy schedule and brought his staff out to us who made themselves available to address our needs," said Wes and Geri Sawyer of Sac-

ramento. "We really enjoyed Chief Ellis and staff joining in, meeting with us, sharing information and laughing with us."

All tribal agencies had tables set up with information pertaining to their programs. Jason Nichols, Acting Gaming Commissioner, gave a brief outline about what gaming revenue does for tribal citizens.

Chief Ellis gave a power point presentation showing the progress of the tribe over the past few years.

Following Chief Ellis, Judge Moore presented the Constitutional amendment power point and instruction how to submit any amendments.

Eli Grayson was recognized for the countless hours spent organizing and planning both days activities. CMCA Officers applauded Grayson for his efforts to educate and promote the Muscogee Culture.

Trail of Tears Commemorative Motorcycle Ride returns to Muscogee Nation

OKMULGEE—The 13th Annual Trail of Tears Commemorative Motorcycle Ride® will arrive at the Creek Council House Museum in downtown Okmulgee at 3:30 p.m. on Monday, September 18, 2006.

This will be the culmination of a three day ride that begins in Chattanooga, Tenn. on Saturday and follows an approximate route similar to that traveled by several of the southeastern Tribes as they were sent to Indian Territory on the infamous Trail of Tears in the 1830's. This will mark the second year the Ride has ended at the Muscogee Nation honoring the Muscogee people.

According to Vicky Karhu, last year's ride leaders said that they felt so welcome they decided to come back to Okmulgee with hopes of ending the long journey in the Muscogee Nation each year.

Approximately 300 to 400 riders will be coming to Okmulgee, including groups from Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, North Carolina, Florida and Kentucky. Na-

tive American riders are planning to meet the Ride here from South Dakota and New Mexico.

A group of local riders will meet at the rodeo arena parking lot at Noon on Sept. 18 to ride out to the Creek Nation boundary to meet the others.

A "Warm Mvskoke Welcome," sponsored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Trade and Commerce Authority, the Creek Council House Museum, Okmulgee Main Street and the Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce, will be held at the Creek Council House Museum with cold water for the riders, a Victory Stompdance and a special downtown merchant sidewalk sale.

Activities will begin at 3:30 p.m. and last until 5:30 p.m. Following the activities, a traditional meal, prepared by Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative, will be served at the Indian Methodist District Center in Preston Ok., along with music and cultural exhibits and demonstrations.

For more information or to register to ride out to meet the other riders, call Vicky at (918) 470-3819.



Ground moving begins at Tulsa site

by Jason Salsman

MNN Staff Writer

TULSA — The fertile bottoms that run alongside the Arkansas River in south Tulsa are usually nice and quiet. That was not the case this past week, as bulldozers and construction workers began clearing the woods to make room for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's highly anticipated 285,000 square ft. gaming and entertainment center.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, as well as several tribal dignitaries and officials, were on hand to

witness the progress on the site. The \$120 million facility will be a testament to the strong presence of the tribe in the city of Tulsa and in the State of Oklahoma.

"It's great to be here now, to see this and show the citizens that we are moving forward with this facility," said Ellis.

Ellis was informed by construction officials that the center is scheduled for completion in approximately 20 months.



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis presents Ball Sticks to the Marines of the Broken Arrow Reserve Command in appreciation for their continuing support of Muscogee Veterans. Pictured, from left to right, is 1st Sgt. Gerardo Ochoa USMC, Chief Ellis, and Major Steve Sims USMC. *photo by Josh Slane*

Office of the Principal Chief

by Chief A.D. Ellis

Mvto to all the Muscogee Creeks in Cailifornia who welcomed our group early this month.

We hope we informed the hundreds of Creek people in both L.A. and northern California about the Creek Nation. I appreciate the many staff and employees who worked Saturday and Sunday. On Sunday we all traveled over 700 miles and conducted a positive meeting in Stockton. This resulted in a meeting that the California Creek now know that they are an important part of our nation.

Last week was the open house for the new Head Start building on the capitol grounds. Please come and visit all the new construction that is going to benefit our children and citizens. We really appreciate Congressman Dan Boren and his wife for helping us dedicate this project. The new Tulsa casino is finally under construction so look for monthly updates.

I have set the date of Septem-



ber 16 for this years annual church leaders summit. We welcome all church leaders to learn the progress and what is available to assist each other to better serve our Creek citizens.

Also school days are here again and we are working daily to complete the school clothing program. My thanks to all who have made the program a success for the National Council, the Finance Department, Children’s Services and all others a big Mvto.

The Constitution Committee is now working very hard to handle all suggestions to change our constitution to better serve our nation. I urge that everyone get involved if they have new ideas that will improve and update this important doc-

ument. One important part of our governmental function was recently killed by the Business and Government committee in our membership in the 5 Tribes Intertribal Council. This intertribal council represented about 500,000 Indians in eastern Oklahoma and is a powerful force in Washington D.C. The five chiefs have met several times in Washington D.C. the last three years to get commitments from the powers that control. Membership has lasted for fifty six years. Restructuring cost each tribe \$50,000 for full time office and personal etc. The other four tribes have paid so I guess we’re no longer a member. Cherokee, Choc-taw, Chickasaw and Seminole. I believe this intertribal council is very important to this nation and our people to have a strong voice in our nation’s capitol.

Until we meet again, Best of Times to all families and may you all be blessed.

Mvto
Chief A.D. Ellis

P.S. Today, August 28th I visited the site of the new Tulsa casino and the bulldozers are moving dirt. After three years

of stalling I hope everyone is as excited as I am to see the actual construction under way.

Victim Impact Statement

My name is A.D. Ellis and I am the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Previously I was Second Chief and I have served as a National Council Representative of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. I have served my Nation in official capacity for 15 years. I have heard many times how easy it is to steal from the Nation because no one will do anything about it. Often, because of jurisdictional issues, the Nation can do nothing to the individuals who steal from the Nation.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation does not issue per capita payments to it’s members. Any money stolen from the Nation directly impacts the services the Nation can provide it’s members, those members who desperately need the assistance. When someone steals money from the Nation’s casinos they are stealing money from an elderly person who needs a meal; a child who needs clothing; a family who needs food; a sick person who needs electricity and other utilities. When the Nation can not independently provide the services, then the burden falls on the state and federal government to help those in need.

We need to send a message to those that steal from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation that we will not tolerate stealing. They need to understand that stealing from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation is far reaching and effects more than the casino itself. Those that steal from tribal governments should be treated the same as those that steal from municipalities, the states and the federal government.

Second Opinion

by Second Chief Alfred Berryhill

Greetings. The following is a continuation of excerpts from a book titled “*Apalachee The Land between the Rivers*” by John H. Hann: “*Translation of the Ball Game Manuscript*”. “The second [rule is] that they should order four or five elderly men to go



to sleep. And, that, early in the morning, they should tell what they dreamed about to the leading men or to whomever the ball-game courier reported to. And it is said that, if one dreams that the enemy entered from a certain direction and killed them and took what they had, it is a bad dream. Consequently, they are not to put the benches for the players on that side, because they would lose. And, if the other one said that he dreamed that a very gallant chief entered from such a direction with many gifts that he distributed among them, it was a good dream. The benches for the [players] should be placed on that side.

The third [rule is] that they must make a new fire and that they are not to approach it; nor are they to use it for anything other than what it is destined for, because to use it so, they believe without a doubt, would make them lose, even if it were [merely] for smoking tobacco. (5) And they must carry it [the new fire] to the ball game in some bundles of lighted palm-thatch. (6) They are accustomed to place this in front of themselves.

FOOTNOTES:

5. For purposes of literalness, it should be noted that the Spanish expression here is *chapar*, “to suck,” rather than *fumar*, “to smoke.”

6. The Spanish here, “en unos mechones de guano encendido,” could be rendered also “in some bundles of lighted Spanish moss.”

The fourth [rule is] that, on entering into the plaza, they should not enter with all the people who have consented of their own accord to play. If it was arranged for fifty persons, let them enter with four or five less. And when they ask them if you have all the people assembled, let them say

the do not, that they lack so many. And if they then command them to include [some] from the young men and from the other people, who are there, it would appear to be considered as a good sign that they will win. And thus he did it. And thus they have continued doing it. And this and all the rest [is] the worst of it in our view, as will be seen. This occurs in all the places of Apalachee, being common and equal in all the province. And because they were considered simple people *suiaj* they passed for such, when it was us in effect who were the simpletons. (7)

FOOTNOTE:

7. I was not able to decipher the not very legible word that I have written as *suiaj*, which follows *por simplasos*, “simple people.”

They entered the plaza and, on being asked if their people were assembled and at full strength, those on Ytonanslac’s side said “no,” that they were short so many people. The rivals told them that they should choose from those young men who were in the vicinity. They called to *eslafiayupi*, the son of Nicotajulo, he who killed the eagle and tricked the snakes, etc., and who gave the appearance of being ill, leaning up against a post, wrapped with a cloak of feathers. And upon his entering the game, the battle was begun. And when those of Ytonanslac had reached seven, *eslafiayupi* let out a thunderous roar and they were all terrified. And *eslafiayupi* was recognized for Nicoguada, who is the Lightning-flash, son of Nicotajulo and of the sun, who is nico. And since then it has remained for an omen that the first who arrived at seven would win because Nicoguada, helped him. And the rivals lose heart at once. And they were accustomed to tell this story every night, sometimes in the council house and sometimes under the ball post.

After having lost at the ball [game], Ochuna Nicoguada challenged Nicoguada to play at *el quiso* which is the game

which, at the beginning, I said all these nations play, which is with a stone and two poles, for, as I say, he challenged Nicoguada, and having won from him all that he had, they say that he tried to ensnare him and he pretended to the aforesaid Ochuna Nicoguada that he was thirsty and wanted to go to drink. (8) And they san nicoguada hit the ground with the sticks sharp end [and] made water spring forth and said to him, “Drink.” At this poing he pretended to need to relieve himself.(9) And finally he said he was going to light a tobacco and entered into a house and opened a hole [in the wall] and fled to Apalachocolo. And Nicoguada then went in search of him with his warriors. And they say that he formed much fog, dold mists, [and] frost, etc.(10) But despite it all he vanquished him and killed him and his warriors. And his vassals fashioned the ball pole for him that is shown here on this page, the nature of which, with God’s help, I shall go on explaining.

concerning the (11) with which he killed the eagle. At the foot of this pole they are to place or bury a scalp from a dead person in memory of Ytonaslac, its founder, great grandfather of Nicoguada. The little sticks with which they adorn (12) it have to be of sassafras and of no other wood. They have to raise it with wild grapevines, and not with anything else, even though they might have ropes, as happened to me when I gave them ropes. The answered me, “No,” that the former were stronger and that they were [used] in memory of those which he [Eslafiayupi] carried with him, when he went for the arrow shafts, from which he made the hoops with which he tricked the snakes. Consequently, they made and established this ball post of the devil to the honor of Nicoguada, to put it better, with all its frauds, as is seen. And this is not the end of it, as will be seen. And this has been the acclaimed and celebrated, etc. [ball game].
=====TO BE CONTINUED=====

FOOTNOTES:

8. From this point to the end of the paragraph the story line seems to become confused. As a result vari-

ous sections of it have been rendered differently by the three people who have dealt with it. In the Granberry (n.d.) version Eslafiayupi challenges Ochuna Nicoguada to the game of chunky and wins it as well. It is Eslafiayupi who pretends to be thirsty, and it is he who finally is killed by Ochuna Nicoguada. In the Peterson (1976) version of this passage and in the Bushnell article on the ball game, Ochuna Nicoguada challenges Eslafiayupi to a game of chunky and wins it and pretends to be thirsty. But it is Eslafiayupie who emerges victorious at the end in tracking down and killing Ochuna Nicoguada. My rendition of these murky passages differs in places from both of these earlier versions. There seem to be no doubt that Ochuna Nicoguada challenged Eslafiayupi to the game of chunky and won it. Consequently, Grannberry’s version seems to be in error on this point. However, I agree with the Granberry version that Eslafiayupi pretended to be thirsty. Although both Peterson’s and Bushnell’s versions make more sense logically on this point, in terms of what one would expect the story to be, their rendition seems to be ruled out grammatically by the phrase “*fingio al tal Ochuna Nicoguada*.” There Ochuna Nicoguada is clearly the indirect object of the verb *fingio*, “pretended,” not its subject. Jeanette Thurber Connor has, I believe, pointed the path out of this maze. In a penciled note on the typescript of her transcription of this document (9p. 12), she observed, “The friar forgets to explain that after Eslafiayupi killed Nicoguada he took his place and his name. From now on he calls Eslafiayupi Nicoguada.” If one applies that last sentence to the remainder of this paragraph beginning with “And they say Nicoguada hit the ground” to interpret this Nicoguada as the former Eslafiayupi, one has a satisfactory story.

9. The Spanish here reads “*Aqui fingio tener necesiadad corporal de usar desualbadanar*.” I could not locate the word *albadanar*, but the meaning is clear.

10. The Spanish here is “*nieblas frios gelos*.”

11. The copyist may have omitted something here. “Explaining,” the last word preceding the illustration, is followed by a comma. The illustration fills the lower two-thirds of the page. The next page begins with

the incomplete phrase “concerning the with which he killed the eagle,” which is followed by a period.

12. The Spanish verb here, *estofan*, has in modern Spanish the literal meaning “to quit,” “to put embossed painting on a gilt ground,” or “to size carvings before gildin g.” On the drawing of the goalpost, the word *Atari* is written in minuscule letters under each of the sassafras pegs that adorn each side. And there is a tasse-like appendage on each peg.

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month. The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

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OKMULGEE— THE FOL-
LOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA-
TIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT
THE JUNE 24, 2006, REGULAR SES-
SION.

JUNE 24, REGULAR SESSION
REPRESENTATIVES EX-
CUSED ARE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL**,
WAGONER; **LARRY BIBLE**, TULSA;
SYLVANNA CALDWELL,
TUKVPTCE; AND **DUKE HARJO**,
CREEK.

ABSENT WAS: **DUKE HARJO**,
CREEK DISTRICT; **SYLVANNA**
CALDWELL, TUKVPTCE DIS-
TRICT; **LARRY BIBLE**, TULSA DIS-
TRICT; **RICHARD BERRYHILL**,
WAGONER DISTRICT.

SPEAKER **GEORGE TIGER**,
CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED
THE MEETING AND DID NOT
VOTE.

IN ORDER OF BUSINESS
• **NO ACTION, MOTION DID**
NOT RECEIVE A SECOND TR 06-
030, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION
OF **DEL NUTTER** TO THE POSITION
OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
HEALTH SYSTEM **Sponsor: Tom**
Pickering

• **POSTPONED (21-0-0) TR 06-**
053, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-
THORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF
TO TAKE THE NECESSARY AND AP-
PROPRIATE ACTION TO ENSURE
THAT THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION RECEIVES FULL FUNDING
FROM THE IHS AS APPROPRIATED
BY THE U.S. CONGRESS FOR FIS-
CAL YEAR 2006 **Sponsor: Tom**
Pickering

• **APPROVED (20-1-0) TR 06-**
076, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-
THORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF
TO EXECUTE A MASTER POST
WARRANTY SERVICES AGREEMENT
TO COMMERCIAL ELEC-
TRONICS CORPORATION TO PRO-
VIDE MAINTENANCE ON THE
HIGHER GROUND RECORDING
SYSTEM FOR THE LIGHTHORSE
POLICE **Sponsor: Eddie LaGrone**
VOTING NO WERE: **THO-**
MAS MCINTOSH, MCINTOSH DIS-
TRICT.

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) TR 06-**
079, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-
THORIZING THE CHARTER OF
FORMATION OF THE COLLEGE OF
THE MUSCOGEE NATION AND AU-
THORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF
AND THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF
THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE
NATION ENACT SAID CHARTER
Sponsor: Thomas Yahola; Co-
Sponsor(s): K. Johnson; R. Jones

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) TR 06-**
080, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RE-
GARDING THE FINANCING OF A
EUFAULA HEALTH CLINIC DE-
CLARING AN OFFICIAL INTENT TO
REIMBURSE FOR EXPENSES IN-
CURRED PRIOR TO ISSUANCE OF
THE BORROWING **Sponsor: Tom**
Pickering

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) TR 06-**
082, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-
THORIZING THE OFFICE OF PUB-
LIC GAMING TO EXECUTE A
MEMORANDUM OF UNDER-
STANDING FOR ATTORNEY SER-
VICES WITH NANCY McALISTER
LAW FIRM, P.C. **Sponsor: Sam**
Alexander

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) TR 06-**
083, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SUP-
PORTING THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM
BOARD IN MAKING APPLICATION
FOR A FISCAL YEAR 2007 BIA IN-
DIAN HIGHWAY SAFETY PRO-

GRAM (IHSP) GRANT FOR THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
CHILD PROTECTION SAFETY
PROJECT-2006, A COLLABORATION
BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION LIGHTHORSE PO-
LICE DEPARTMENT **Sponsor: Lena**
Wind

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) TR 06-**
089, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
AMENDING THE
HOMEOWNERSHIP AND RENTAL
PROPERTIES POLICIES TO INCLUDE
STIPULATIONS FOR OUT OF JURIS-
DICTION ELDERS AND PREVIOUS
MUTUAL HELP HOMEBUYERS
Sponsor: Robert Jones

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) TR 06-**
090, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
AMENDING TR 05-085 “GRIEVANCE
POLICY” AS AMENDED BY TR 06-
017 OF THE HOUSING DIVISION OF
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
Sponsor: Robert Jones

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) TR 06-**
091, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AP-
PROVING METROPOLITAN LIFE
INSURANCE COMPANY AS BRO-
KER OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION 401 (k) PLAN AND AP-
POINTING RELIANCE TRUST COM-
PANY AS A TRUSTEE OVER THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION 401
(k) PLAN **Sponsor: Bill Fife; Co-Spon-**
sor: Sam Alexander

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) TR 06-**
092, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
AMENDING THE “EMERGENCY
REPAIR OF PRIVATELY OWNED
HOMES POLICY” OF THE HOUSING
DIVISION OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AS ADOPTED BY
TR 05-033 AND AMENDED BY TR
05-169 AND TR 06-054 **Sponsor: Jeff**
Fife

• **FAILED ON THE FLOOR (1-**
20-0) TR 06-094, A TRIBAL RESOLU-
TION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)
NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-
NOMINATION OF **LARRY L.**
OLIVER TO SERVE AS A SUPREME
COURT JUSTICE OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
Sponsor: Sam Alexander

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER**
BARNETT, CREEK DISTRICT; **AN-**
THONY NOTARO, MCINTOSH DIS-
TRICT; **THOMAS MCINTOSH**,
MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **PETE BEA-**
VER, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT; **EDDIE**
LAGRONE, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT;
TRAVIS SCOTT, OKFUSKEE DIS-
TRICT; **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE DIS-
TRICT; **ROBERT JONES**,
OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **KEEPER**
JOHNSON, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;
JEFF FIFE, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;
BO JOHNSON, OKMULGEE DIS-
TRICT; **JAMES JENNINGS**, OK-
MULGEE DISTRICT; **THOMAS**
YAHOLA, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT;
SHIRLENE ADE, TUKVPTCE DIS-
TRICT; **CHERRAH QUIETT**, TULSA
DISTRICT; **RON CLEGHORN**,
TULSA DISTRICT; **SAM**
ALEXANDER, TULSA DISTRICT;
PAULA WILLITS, TULSA DISTRICT;
JOHNNIE GREENE, WAGONER DIS-
TRICT;

• **FAILED ON THE FLOOR (1-**
20-0) NCA 06-096, A LAW OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-
THORIZING AN APPROPRIATION
TO THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH FOR
THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
FARM OPERATION FISCAL YEAR
2006 OPERATING BUDGET **Sponsor:**
Eddie LaGrone (\$169,814.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER**
BARNETT, CREEK DISTRICT; **TOM**
PICKERING, MCINTOSH DISTRICT;
ANTHONY NOTARO, MCINTOSH
DISTRICT; **THOMAS MCINTOSH**,
MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **PETE BEA-**
VER, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT;
TRAVIS SCOTT, OKFUSKEE DIS-

TRICT; **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE DIS-
TRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DIS-
TRICT; **ROBERT JONES**,
OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **KEEPER**
JOHNSON, OKMULGEE
DISTRICT; **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE
DISTRICT; **BO JOHNSON**,
OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **JAMES**
JENNINGS, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;
THOMAS YAHOLA, TUKVPTCE
DISTRICT; **SHIRLENE ADE**,
TUKVPTCE DISTRICT; **CHERRAH**
QUIETT, TULSA DISTRICT; **RON**
CLEGHORN, TULSA DISTRICT;
SAM ALEXANDER, TULSA DIS-
TRICT; **PAULA WILLITS**, TULSA DIS-
TRICT; **JOHNNIE GREENE**, WAG-
ONER DISTRICT;

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) NCA 06-**
104, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE
HOLDENVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL
SYSTEM TO ASSIST WITH THE
PURCHASE OF A HEATING/COOL-
ING CHILLER FOR THOMAS EL-
EMENTARY SCHOOL **Sponsor: Thomas**
Yahola; Co-Sponsor: Pete Beaver
(\$18,000.00)

• **TABLED (16-5-0) NCA 06-105**,
A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AMENDING
MCNCATITLE 17, §2-112 TO ALLOW
FOR RENTAL MONEY FROM
TRAVEL PLAZA CASINOS TO BE
DEPOSITED DIRECTLY INTO THE
TRIBAL TREASURY **Sponsor: Ron**
Cleghorn

VOTING NO WERE: **THO-**
MAS MCINTOSH, MCINTOSH DIS-
TRICT; **ROBERT JONES**,
OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **KEEPER**
JOHNSON, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;
RON CLEGHORN, TULSA DIS-
TRICT; **SAM ALEXANDER**, TULSA
DISTRICT;

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) NCA 06-**
114, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING
AN APPROPRIATION TO THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
HEALTH SYSTEM TO ASSIST WITH
FUNDING THE DIABETES WALK-
ING PROGRAM **Sponsor: Tom**
Pickering (\$53,536.00)

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) NCA 06-**
116, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE
MORRIS VOLUNTEER FIRE DE-
PARTMENT FOR THE PURCHASE
OF A RADIO REPEATER SYSTEM
AND A 200 GALLON PORTABLE
DUMP TANK **Sponsor: Keeper**
Johnson (\$3,500.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **PAULA**
WILLITS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF
CASTING OF VOTE

• **APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-**
118, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE
TWIN HILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY
TO PURCHASE A COMPUTER-TO-
TELEVISION INTERFACE FOR
INTERNET MONITORING FOR THE
PURPOSE OF ALLOWING CITIZENS
TO VIEW MEETINGS OF THE NA-
TIONAL COUNCIL **Sponsor: Keeper**
Johnson (\$759.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **PAULA**
WILLITS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF
CASTING OF VOTE

• **APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-**
123, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA
06-004 TO INCREASE THE AMOUNT
INCLUDED IN THE FY 2007 COM-
PREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET
AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER
FOR THE ADULT VOCATIONAL
TRAINING PROGRAM **Sponsor:**
Johnnie Greene; Co-Sponsor(s): K.
Johnson; R. Berryhill; D. Harjo; J.
Jennings (\$1,412,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **PAULA**
WILLITS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF
CASTING OF VOTE

• **APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-**
125, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION
TO THE JOHNSON O’MALLEY
PROGRAM THROUGH THE DIVI-
SION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Sponsor: Johnnie Green; Co-
Sponsor(s): K. Johnson; R. Berryhill;
J. Jennings; D. Harjo (\$30,420.00)

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) NCA 06-**
126, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO
WAINWRIGHT PUBLIC SCHOOL
FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF A PRE-
SCHOOL PROGRAM **Sponsor: Pete**
Beaver; Co-Sponsor: Eddie LaGrone
(\$20,000.00)

• **FAILED ON FLOOR (10-11-0)**
NCA 06-127, A LAW OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-
THORIZING A SPECIAL APPRO-
PRIATION TO THE EUFAULA IN-
DIAN COMMUNITY TO ASSIST
WITH PROVIDING SPONSORSHIP
FOR THE EUFAULA INDIAN COM-
MUNITY POW-WOW AND HOME-
COMING **Sponsor: Tom Pickering;**
Co-Sponsor: Thomas McIntosh
(\$1,530.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **PETE**
BEAVER, MUSKOGEE DISTRICT;
EDDIE LAGRONE, MUSKOGEE DIS-
TRICT; **TRAVIS SCOTT**, OKFUSKEE
DISTRICT; **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE
DISTRICT; **KEEPER JOHNSON**,
OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **SHIRLENE**
ADE, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT;
CHERRAH QUIETT, TULSA DIS-
TRICT; **RONALD CLEGHORN**,
TULSA DISTRICT; **SAM**
ALEXANDER, TULSA DISTRICT;
PAULA WILLITS, TULSA DISTRICT;
JOHNNIE GREEN, WAGONER DIS-
TRICT;

REPRESENTATIVE **TRAVIS**
SCOTT WAS OUT OF SEAT AT TIME
OF CASTING VOTE.

• **APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-**
133, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION
TO THE COMMUNICATIONS DE-
PARTMENT FISCAL YEAR 2006
BUDGET **Sponsor: Sam Alexander**
(\$69,617.00)

• **APPROVED (21-0-0) NCA 06-**
135, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SALT
CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH FOR THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF A MAIN WA-
TER LINE **Sponsor: Shirlene Ade**
(\$5,500.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **THOMAS**
YAHOLA WAS OUT OF SEAT AT
TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• **APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-**
137, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE
NATIONAL INDIAN COUNCIL ON
AGING FOR THE CONFERENCE
HELD SEPTEMBER 16-19, 2006 **Spon-**
sor: Roger Barnett (\$177,400.00)

• **FAILED ON THE FLOOR (10-**
11-0) NCA 06-138, A LAW OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AU-
THORIZING A SPECIAL APPRO-
PRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION BASKETBALL
TEAM TO ASSIST WITH TRAVEL EX-
PENSES TO THE MICCOSUKEE 2nd
ANNUAL ALL-INDIAN MEN’S
TOURNAMENT **Sponsor: Robert**
Jones (\$1,500.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **AN-**
THONY NOTARO, MCINTOSH DIS-
TRICT; **TRAVIS SCOTT**, OKFUSKEE
DISTRICT; **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE
DISTRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE
DISTRICT; **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE
DISTRICT; **JAMES JENNINGS**,
OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **THOMAS**
YAHOLA, TUKVPTCE DISTRICT;
SHIRLENE ADE, TUKVPTCE DIS-
TRICT; **CHERRAH QUIETT**, TULSA
DISTRICT; **PAULA WILLITS**, TULSA
DISTRICT; **JOHNNIE GREENE**,
WAGONER DISTRICT;

REPRESENTATIVE **CHERRAH**
QUIETT WAS EXCUSED. THERE-
FORE, TWENTY-ONE PRESENT

AND FIVE ABSENT.
REPRESENTATIVE **TOM**
PICKERING WAS OUT OF SEAT AT
TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• **APPROVED (17-2-1) NCA 06-**
139, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PE-
CAN GROVE METHODIST
CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF
A 12-PASSENGER VAN **Sponsor:**
Shirlene Ade (\$21,158.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **JEFF**
FIFE, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **BO**
JOHNSON, OKMULGEE DISTRICT.
ABSTENTION WERE: **ROB-**
ERT JONES, OKMULGEE DIS-
TRICT;

• **APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-**
140, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO AS-
SIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) ELDER
WITH PURCHASING A WHEEL-
CHAIR LIFT **Sponsor: Shirlene Ade**
(\$2,319.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **THOMAS**
YAHOLA AND **SHIRLENE ADE** WERE
EXCUSED. THEREFORE, TWENTY
PRESENT AND SIX ABSENT.

• **APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 06-**
141, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE
SAPULPA, DEWAR, TWIN HILLS,
WETUMKA, WELEETKA, TULSA
AND WILSON INDIAN COMMUNI-
TIES EARMARKING MONIES TO
COVER THE OPERATING AND
MAINTENANCE EXPENSES FOR
THE COMMUNITY VANS **Sponsor:**
Sam Alexander; Co-Sponsor(s): R.
Cleghorn; A. Notaro; D. Harjo
(\$56,000.00)

• **APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 06-**
142, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION
TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL A
SIGN FOR THE CREEK NATION CA-
SINO-OKEMAH **Sponsor: Travis**
Scott; Co-Sponsor: R. Cleghorn; B.
Fife (\$146,725.00)

• **APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 06-**
143, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO AS-
SIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITI-
ZEN WITH PAYMENT OF MEDICAL
BILLS DUE TO EXTENUATING CIR-
CUMSTANCES **Sponsor: Duke Harjo**
(\$6,699.020)

• **APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 06-**
144, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO AS-
SIST A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITI-
ZEN WITH TRAVEL EXPENSES IN
ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE
NATIONALLY - RECOGNIZED
PEOPLE TO PEOPLE STUDENT AM-
BASSADOR CLASS OF 2006 **Sponsor:**
Sam Alexander (\$2,000.00)

• **APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 06-**
146, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING
FUNDS TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL
CONVENTION COMMISSION **Spon-**
sor: Roger Barnett (\$40,500.00)

• **APPROVED (16-2-0) NCA 06-**
147, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA
06-042 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SUP-
PORT FIVE (5) POLITICAL CANDI-
DATES WHO WILL ADVOCATE FOR
THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION IN
THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA PO-
LITICAL ARENA) TO REVISE THE
AMOUNT OF THE CONTRIBU-
TION TO COMPLY WITH CAM-
PAIGN FINANCING REGULATIONS
Sponsor: Roger Barnett

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT**
JONES, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;
RON CLEGHORN, TULSA DISTRICT;
• **APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 06-**
148, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE
(CONTINUED - SEE PAGE B7)

Poll Says: Public Supports Indian Gaming

by Knute Knudson, published in Indian Gaming magazine.

If you’re involved in Indian gaming, the odds are you’re familiar with key legislation that could adversely affect Indian gaming. You’re probably aware of Senator McCain’s bill (S 2078) to amend IGRA. You’ve probably been following the progress of Representative Pombo’s bill (HR 4893) to limit gaming on after acquired lands. These legislators chair the Senate Indian Affairs Committee and the House Resources Committee respectively – committees that have primarily responsibility for Indian affairs and issues. You may also be aware of Senator Feinstein’s bill (S 113) to take away the ability of the Lytton Rancheria of California to conduct gaming on their land.

These bills have gotten a lot of attention in the press. They would have major consequences for Indian gaming. But, they are only the tip of the iceberg. An activity as successful and wideranging as Indian gaming can attract a lot of legislative activity, for good and for ill.

Currently there are a number of bills in Congress, other than those noted above, that would have significant impacts on Indian gaming.

- Several pending bills, in addition to Representative Pombo’s bill above, would limit or strip tribes of the ability to conduct gaming on newly acquired lands. Those include Senator Vitter’s bill, S 1260, Representative Rogers’ bills, HR 2353, and HR 4696, and Representative Dent’s bill, HR 3431.
- One measure, HR 4677, sponsored by Representative Rogers, would put in place a two year moratorium on new compacts. The bill would mandate that: “The Secretary of the Interior shall not approve any new Tribal-State compacts for gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) until after the date that is two years after the date of the enactment of this Act.”
- Senator Voinovich is sponsoring S 1518 which would limit tribes to conducting compacted gaming only in states where such gaming was done for charitable or non-profit purposes. Further, it would subject gaming tribes to follow state rules rather than rules determined pursuant to negotiation.
- Representative Costa’s bill, HR 5125, would amend IGRA to provide

- that the Secretary of the Interior shall not approve a Tribal-State gaming compact under IGRA unless the state involved has a state law providing for a gaming master plan that has been approved by the Secretary.
- Several bills noted above would also mandate that state legislatures, in addition to state’s governors, must have a voice in approving compacts or approving off-reservation gaming, thereby making it more difficult to achieve such approval.
 - Legislation is pending to put limits on Internet gaming that would have an impact on tribal gaming opportunities.
 - In addition to pending legislation, federal regulations are in development that would have a significant impact on Indian gaming regarding Class II gaming definitions, facility licensing, and gaming on after acquired lands.
- Will all of these bills become law? No. Only about 6% of all bills introduced in the last session of Congress became law. Could any of these become law? You bet. About 6% of all bills introduced in the last session of Congress became law - any of these could be in that 6% and the ideas in

these bills could also become law as amendments to other bills. Already this session, there have been attempts to change Indian gaming law through amendments to bills on other subjects.

We’re nearing the end of the two year 109th Session of Congress. It may not seem so as the calendar year is just half over, but Congress does not have many working days left this year, and members will be anxious to spend as much time as possible campaigning in their home districts this fall. That’s important to remember because a lot can happen quickly in the waning days of a Congressional session.

What can you do about all of this legislative activity? Stay informed and get involved. Follow the status of legislation online. The Library of Congress maintains an excellent legislative website at <http://thomas.loc.gov/>. Federal regulations come on-line as they are proposed at the Federal Register’s site at <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/index.html>. And, a lot of information can be found at the NIGC website at <http://www.nigc.gov>.

Get involved as a member or associate member in your regional and national gaming association. The National Indian Gaming Association (NIGA) and most regional gaming associations schedule regular opportunities for their members and associates to meet directly with members of Congress and with Congressional staffers. They monitor legislation and will coordinate written communications to Congressional offices as that is warranted.

When your association asks for a letter to Congress on a particular topic and the letter is consistent with your organization’s views, be sure and send that letter. You can bet those who oppose you on legislative issues are making their voices heard. It’s important for you to do the same.

The truth about Indian gaming - that it is well regulated, offers a highly competitive entertainment product to its customers, and supports tribal members in almost countless ways, is not self-evident and legislators need to be educated in order to make informed votes.

By staying informed of all current legislative and regulatory activity related to Indian gaming, by manning the radar so to speak, you will be able to identify the many potential threats to Indian gaming. Once you know the specific threats to Indian gaming, you’ll be in a much better position to help fight those threats.”

Business Briefs

Wallpapering by Kathy
HENRYETTA — If you need wallpaper put up, Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen Kathy Thompson can help.

Kathy has been putting up wallpaper with her business “Wallpapering by Kathy” for over 28 years. She works in Okmulgee, McIntosh, Muskogee, Pittsburg, and Okfuskee counties, and works one week a month in Norman. She works out of her home in

Henryetta.

She stays booked between two to four weeks out, so if you need wallpaper put up, it’s good to contact her early. She can be reached at her home at (918) 652–9529 or on her cell phone at (918) 652–5999.

Dream Weaver Enterprises
OKEMAH — It’s no secret that many Muscogee citizens are quite talented craftsmen, but at

times, especially with our economy struggling, it can be hard for craftsmen to make a good living selling their products.

But Dream Weaver Enterprises can help. Dream Weaver Enterprises, owned and operated by Susan Sharp Doty is an on-line business that lists items for sale on ebay, the world’s largest market place. In this manner, anyone in the world can see, and thus bid and buy the items.

Susan takes pictures of the item for sale and posts them with a description on ebay. All she charges is \$5.00 which the buyer of the item pays as part of the shipping and handling fees, and the ebay costs (usually less than \$2 depending on the price the item sells for).

She will take care of the shipping and all the electronic work so the only thing the craftsman (or anyone who uses her services) has to do is bring her the product and collect his / her money later.

To contact Dream Weaver Enterprises and see about getting your crafts, such as beadwork or silver work, call Susan at (918) 623–2690.

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Business Information
OKMULGEE — The Musco-

gee (Creek) Nation Communications Department is accepting information on Muscogee owned and / or operated businesses and Muscogee business owners. If you, or someone you know, owns or operates a business and is a Muscogee Citizen write in and let us know about them and let us let everyone else know about them as well.

Send information to: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications Department, C/O: Joshua Slane, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, Ok. 74447 or e-mail the stories to jslane@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

GOT CASH?

There’s plenty of cash to be won at Creek Nation Muscogee Casino. Located just south of Muskogee at highway 69 and Peak Boulevard. We offer Blackjack, Poker, Bingo and Electronic Games. Open 7 days a week and 24 hours a day.

MUSCOGEE

3420 W. Peak Boulevard, Muskogee, Ok 74402
For information call (918) 683-1825.
This facility is regulated by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation office of Public Gaming.

HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

MCN Division of Health Administration

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health offers a wide range of medical and lifestyle advancements within the boundaries of the Creek Nation for its citizens. The Division of Health can offer extensive and thorough care to each citizen through the practice of qualified medical professionals and caring staff.

Tobacco Prevention Prog.

Program Director, Cynthia Tainpeah
Grand Street, Okmulgee
918-756-6231

Diabetes Prevention Prog.

Diabetes Coordinator, Johnnie Brassuell
1801 East 4th, Okmulgee
918-756-3334 extension 248

Behavioral Health Services

Clinical Director, Dailey Tearl LMFT, LADC
100 West 7th Street, Okmulgee
918-758-1910

Contract Health Services

Program Manager, Laura Mackey
206 South Grand Street, Okmulgee
918-758-2710

Okemah Hospital

309 North 14th Street, Okemah
918-623-1424

Women Infant & Children (WIC)

WIC Director, Misty Rains RD/LD
Hwy 75 and Loop 56, Okmulgee
918-758-2722

Vocational Rehabilitation Prog.

Program Coordinator, Mary Lee
213 N. 2nd, Okemah
918-623-1197

CHR Program

Manager, Cyndi Gilks
700 N. Mission, Okmulgee
918-756-1941

Elderly Nutrition Prog.

Manager, Steve Wilson
1801 East 4th, Okmulgee
918-758-2727

Care Giver Prog.

Teresa Jennings
1801 East 4th, Okmulgee
918-758-2727

Eufaula Health Center

800 Forest Ave, Eufaula
918-689-2547

Okmulgee Health Center

1313 East 20th, Okmulgee
918-758-1926

Sapulpa Health Center

1125 E. Cleveland, Sapulpa
918-224-9310

Koweta Health Facility

31870 East Hwy 51, Coweta
918-279-3200

Ropes Course challenge at Eufaula Dormitory

EUFULA —The Tribal Youth Wellness Program has a newly constructed Challenge Course in Eufaula located on the grounds of the Eufaula Dormitory. The Challenge Course is effective in teaching therapeutic and adventure programming.



The methods are active, fun, and challenging. The Challenge Course has nine low elements. It has one multi-high element which can be converted into three activities.

On August 28-30, 2006 staff from Behavioral Health, Diabetes Program and Eufaula Dorm attended Challenge Course facilitator training provided by Adventure

Resources, Inc. One of the most important aspects of a successful course is the facilitator. The first area is the people skills area including communication, patience, compromise, and trust. The second area includes technical and safety capabilities. The topics covered included challenge course history and philosophy, cooperative games, initiatives, ropes, knots, gear, and hardware, as well as set up and belaying.

The challenge course will be open to tribal use in the spring. For more information please call Thomasine Fife at 758-1930. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division

of Health was awarded a tribal grant to create a Tribal Youth Wellness program to promote and cultivate the physical, emotional, and mental well being of Native youth within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries.

The program will mobilize community involvement and engage moderate to high risk youth and families in a year long prevention activity that will strengthen their ability to circumvent the development and progression of behavior, academic, and emotional difficulties. The service schools are Dustin and Hanna Public Schools as well as the Eufaula Dormitory. Allen-Bowden in Creek

County has also been contacted.

The program will provide one after-school session per week for 2-3 hours and one daylong weekend activity per month. The youth will participate in the planning and implementation of 150 hours of community service learning projects. The staff includes Thomasine Fife, Coordinator; Nedra Thompson, Prevention Counselor; Dewayne Tiger, Prevention Counselor; and Diana Banks, Administrative Assistant. For more information please call 918-758-1930.



Circles of Care Program

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System, Behavior of Health and Substance Abuse Services are currently participating in the Circles of Care Grant.

The “Circles of Care” is a federally funded program that supports Native American communities that are

planning or developing health service systems for children experiencing emotional or behavioral difficulties.

“To Carry On” project will be done within 10 countries of Muscogee (Creek) Nation boundaries to plan and create a mental health treatment de-

(SEE PAGE 6 CIRCLES OF CARE)

Koweta clinic updates

COWETA — It has been nearly two months since the opening of the new Koweta Indian Health Facility and things are going well. The addition of this new facility has allowed for the expansion of health services offered within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

With Physical Therapy, Mammography, Ultra Sound, and soon to be Audiology and CT offered at the facility it has and will allow patients within the Nation to obtain these services without having to be sent to an outside facility. Not only does this benefit the patients, it also helps to impact the cost of the Division’s Contract Health Service dollars. While the facility has experienced it share of growing pains in the past two months, the patient load is starting to increase and the processes are beginning to smooth out. The facility currently has three dentist, a hygienist, an optometrist, a physical therapist, two physicians, a pediatrician three days a week, and two mid-level Providers. The facility is also offering Behavioral Health

Services and WIC and CHR services as well. With over 2,000 charts already established, patient registration is a very busy place.

If you wish to seen for services at the facility you must make an appointment then arrive about 30 minutes prior to your appointment and establish a chart. Please remember to bring the necessary information needed; a CDIB card(s) Citizenship cards(s), Birth Certificates for children under 18, Social Security card(s), Drivers License, and all medical insurance cards. By having this information it will help to ensure a smooth registration process. Current facility hours are 7:30am to 5:00pm.

The completion and operation of this facility is a testament to progress within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. With the services offered, this facility has helped to enhance the quality of health care for all Tribal Citizens within this region. If anyone has any questions about facility there are asked to come by or just call 918-279-3200.

“CHR-Honor and Dignity, A Hope for Our People”

“What makes the CHR Conference unique is the fact that the total planning originates through ideas and suggestions of CHR’s throughout the state.” -Cyndi Gilks CHR

LONE WOLF — The Oklahoma Area Association of Community Health Representatives will be holding their 21st Annual Educational Conference at Quartz Mountain Conference Center in Lone Wolf, OK. The theme for our conference is “CHR-Honor and Dignity” This year some of the topics to be offered with include: lifelong activities for the youth, setting standards for tobacco control, advocating for children with disabilities, alzheimer’s disease, depression & diabetes, immunization updates, PCC updates, traditional stress relief, cardiac science & AEDs, sexual assault, hepatitis training, nutrition basics, Native Fitness, STD Intervention and Native Writes.

We anticipate a very informative conference this year. What makes the CHR Conference unique is the fact that the total planning originates through ideas and suggestions of CHRs throughout the state. Conference planning takes many months from choosing a location down to choosing the break foods. We are unable to purchase break foods with the money that I.H.S. allocates to us to organize the conference, therefore we required to depend on donations from vendors and registrations to purchase break foods. This year we sent out letters to all the tribes in the Oklahoma Area asking for sponsors. So far we have received sponsorships from the Chickasaw Nation, Seminole Nation, Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe, Comanche, Wichita, Osage, and Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Missouri. During the conference we will give special recognition to these tribes for showing this appreciation for their CHR Programs. Break tables will be decorated with the tribal seal and if available the tribal flag will be displayed.

Many opportunities will be available to participate in wellness activities. Our very own Scott Robison with the Creek Nation Diabetes Program will be a presenter and will demonstrate several methods for forming exercise groups for the youth. Also, from the Creek Nation is Cynthia Tainpeah who will be presenting on Tobacco Prevention.

Another unique presentation

this year will be in conjunction with the American Cancer Society. We will have a panel of three or four people who are cancer survivors and caregivers for a family member with cancer. Three of these panelists are CHRs. I appreciate these CHRs who are willing to share their experiences with other CHRs.

The feature guest will be Dr. Kham Ung from the Center for Limb Salvage and Wound Management. Dr. Ung is traveling from Sioux City, Iowa to update the CHRs on his techniques for preventing amputations. We encourage anyone who is interested to attend this presentation which will take place on Sept. 19 from 8:30a.m.-10:00a.m. If anyone would like to make the trip to Quartz Mountain to hear Dr. Ung, they will not be required to pay a daily conference fee.

We still have time to receive registrations for this conference and it is open to any and everyone from all areas. You do not have to be a CHR to attend. We encourage anyone who would like to learn more about the CHRs to attend. The conference is very informative and also a time when the CHRs from the Oklahoma Area can unite to share what is happening in their life. These conferences are valuable for sharing ideas and sharing feelings and concerns.

“I have had some very helpful conference committee members this year, Gayle Yargee, Secretary/Treasurer and Sarah Cowett, CHR Generalist has worked many hours with typing and ordering supplies and my thanks goes out to them. It is very difficult to plan a conference and even though I have been involved in conference planning since 1997, it is still very stressful and there is much work to be done but when it comes together during the conference week and old friends meet up and new friends are made, it is all worth it”

If you would like more information on the conference or would like to register contact Cyndi Gilks, or Gayle Yargee at (918)-756-1941 and we will gladly send you a registration form.

Doctors Note, Youth Immunizations by Zack Anderson, MD, MPH

OKMULGEE — It’s back to school time and an excellent opportunity to check our children’s immunizations. There are new and exciting developments in childhood and adolescent immunization. Children immunizations are a parent’s way they can help keep their children free of childhood diseases. Many of these diseases we have not seen for years because of the use of immunization, but as we saw with the mumps outbreak this past spring in the northern states, and a rise in pertussis (whooping cough) in the United States, we cannot let our guard down. We must continue to immunize our children against these diseases at the recommended times.

Recommended immunization starts soon after birth, with the first Hepatitis B vaccine given before hospital discharge or soon thereafter. If not offered at the hospital where your child was delivered, or if you have a home delivery schedule a visit with your provider or local health department to begin their immunizations. By the time your child is one year of age they should have

Hepatitis B; DTAP (Diphtheria, Tetanus Toxoids and Acellular Pertussis also known as whooping cough) vaccines; three Polio vaccines; or three Hib (Haemophilus Influenzae type b) vaccine depending on the type of vaccine used; one MMR (Measles, Mumps and Rubella) vaccine; one Varicella (Chicken Pox) vaccine; three Rota Teq (Rotavirus) vaccines; four Pneumococcal vaccines between one to two and a half years they will need one Hepatitis A vaccines.

At four years of age the preschool booster shots are due. DTAP, MMR, Polio.

For the older children, starting at age 11 to 12 years they will need TDAP (Tetanus, Diphtheria Toxoids and Accellular Pertussis) vaccine if they have not received a Td, then a Td every 10 years. For those adolescents and young adults going into high school and college, or children as young as 11 years of age living in a dormitory setting will need 1 Meningococcal vaccine. The good news is some of these vaccines are now combined so your child will not have to receive as many injections as before.

Such as the Pediarix (Hepatitis B, DTAP, Polio) given at two, four, six months and the Pro Quad (MMR, Varicella) given at one year. The Rotavirus vaccine is a new vaccine given at two, four and six months.

GARDASIL (Quadrivalent Human Papillomavirus vaccine) is a new vaccine available at some providers and is recommended for girls and women nine through 26 years of age. And let’s not forget the Flu (Influenza) vaccine yearly starting at six months of age. Adults also need a Td (Tetanus Toxoids) vaccine every 10 years. The pneumonia vaccine is recommended one before age 65 and one after age 65 with at least five years between or as recommended by your medical provider.

If you are not sure if you or your child’s immunizations are up to date, then please check with your medical provider. The MCNHS would like to say MVTO to Donna Horton, ARNP (Pediatric Nurse Practitioner) at the Okmulgee Indian Health Center for writing this article, and to our citizens for allowing us to share this information with you.

Frequently Asked Questions about Housing Programs

How do I know if I am eligible for any services?

Although each program has its own specific requirements here are some of the basic eligibility requirements.

- At least one family member must be of Indian descent.
- An applicant must be 18 years of age.
- An applicant must be low income living in or wish to live within the Creek Nation boundaries with the exception of the Mortgage Assistance Program which includes the state of Oklahoma.
- An applicant must qualify as a low income family, whose income does not exceed 100% of the national median income, as set by HUD. Income limits are adjusted for family size and updated on an annual basis.
- The applicant will be required to provide all information requested on the application, including all necessary forms and certifications. All information and statements made by the applicant are subject to verification.

How do I apply?

Applicants wishing to participate in the Lease With Option To Purchase Home Ownership Program or the Rehabilitation to Privately Owned Homes Program must submit in person, a complete, signed, and dated written application, including all requested forms and certifications to the Housing Division Admissions Department for processing according to specific program eligibility requirements.

Applicant wishing to participate in the Residential Housing Program (Apartments) must submit a complete, signed and dated written application, including all requested forms and certifications to the apartment manager’s office at the specific complex which you wish to reside.

Applicants wishing to participate in the Mortgage Assistance Program must apply directly to the Mortgage Assistance Program.

All Incomplete applications will be returned.

Can I apply for home ownership if I currently live out of state?

An applicant may apply for Home Ownership or Residential Housing Program services without presently living within the Creek Nation but if determined eligible must be willing to live and accept services within the Creek Nation boundaries.

In the case of the Mortgage Assistance Program the applicant must be willing to purchase and live within the State of Oklahoma.

If I am a tribal member other than Creek but within the Creek boundaries am I still eligible for a home?

You may apply and be eligible; however, preference will be given to Creek citizens with families, regardless of approval date.

According to policy, preferences are given in this order:

- 1) Eligible Creek citizens who are involuntarily displaced by government agencies or natural disaster, including fires,
- 2) 4/4 Creek large families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped,
- 3) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly disabled or handicapped ½ or more.
- 4) Large Creek families (2 or more in household), the elderly, disabled or handicapped less than ½
- 5) Single 4/4 Creek citizen, non-elderly, non-disabled or non-handicapped.
- 6) Single less than 4/4 Creek citizen
- 7) Other Indian Tribes

Do I need to own land to be eligible for a new construction home?

No, in most cases new construction houses are built on land acquired by the Creek Nation Housing Division. You may use land that you have readily available but it must meet all environmental requirements.

What is donated property?

Property the eligible applicant owns and donates to the Housing Division for the location on which to build their house.

Is it faster if I have land to build a home on?

If title to the land is free and clear it may speed up the process. Undivided, restricted or unprobated land will often slow the process.

If I want to donate property how much will I need?

Housing recommends at least 2½ acres for rural sites in case the soil will not support a standard septic system in which case an alternative system must be constructed, usually requiring the 2½ acres. Urban sites go by the preferred dimensions of 65’x100’.

Does Housing provide homeowner coverage?

Housing provides structural damage protection for Lease With Option to Purchase homes that are still under lease agreement. This coverage does not include contents of the home. Housing also provides the Community Shield Program for existing homeowners and renters. Community Shield is a joint venture between the Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management to offer low cost coverage for homes and their content.

What is the Alternative Housing Program?

The Alternative Housing Program offers elderly Creek Citizens (62 or older) a replacement home if after being approved for the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program had their present home declared unfeasible for repair after inspection. This program provides a replacement home as a grant and does not require repayment unless the house is transferred without notifying the Housing Division. Recipients must have been approved and been on the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes waiting list.

Does Housing have any home loan programs?

Housing has two home loan programs. The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help eligible clients with grant assistance for typical mortgage loans costs, such as down payments and closing costs. The recently developed Direct Lending Program provides eligible Lease With Option Program clients a 0% loan for 25 years to construct or purchase their own home according to HUD regulations. Direct Lending clients must meet the eligibility requirements as the Lease with Option to Purchase program.

How do I find out more information about these programs?

Contact the Muscogee Creek Nation Housing Division at 918-756-8504, Toll-free 1-800-259-5050, or go to our Website at www.creeknationhousing.org or email us at webmail@creeknationhousing.org. Our offices are located at 2951 N. Wood Dr., Okmulgee, OK.

Contracting/employment Opportunities

If you live in HUD assisted housing you may qualify as a section 3 resident or a section 3 business and may be eligible for contracting and/or employment opportunities. Please contact Mr. Alan Kelley at 918-752-3249 for more information.

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division/Authority is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact

Lenora McPerryman

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756–8504 or 800–259–5050 Ext. 4117



Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information Contact:

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance Program is a program of the

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
DIVISION OF HOUSING

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

- Be a first time home buyer.
- Live within the state of Oklahoma.
- Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.
- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.
- Be 18 years or older.
- Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.
- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.
- Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.
- Preference given to Creek Citizens.

Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

Realty meeting
OKMULGEE — The Realty Department would like to advertise the upcoming meeting with Oklahoma Indian Legal Services. Oklahoma Indian Legal Services will be at the Realty offices located inside Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal Complex on Sept 14th starting at 10 a.m. Anyone wanting to meet with a representative can call (918-)732-7713 to schedule an appointment.

Wacoche Reunion
MUSKOGEE — The Wacoche 20th year reunion was held at the Wacoche Hall on the Bacone



campus, Muskogee, on May 28. Descendents of Benjamin Wacoche, full blood Creek, originally from Eufaula area, founder of this dining hall, converged at this facility commemorating this memorial event. In attendance were about eighty members ranging from new born to 70. The oldest living offspring, uncle Johnson Wacoche, Tahlequah, OK was unable to attend. He was greatly missed.

Watson Reunion
PIERCE — On Sept 9, at 11:00 a.m. at KOA Camp will be the Watson family reunion. KOA Camp is located east of Henryetta, exit at Pierce Rd,

on the Northside of the highway. The reunion will be a potluck dinner. For more information contact Richard Hicks at (918) 224-8212.
Wacoche Reunion
HANNA — On Sept. 9th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Hanna Community Center will be the Wacoche reunion. The reunion will have food, bingo, door prizes — 50/50, and concession. For more information contact J. Berryhill at (918) 756-2318 or (918) 629-9052.

Haskell Alumni Reunion
ALBUQUERQUE, — On Sept 15 & 16, the 1961 Alumni invites all Haskell Alumni & friends to the reunion in Albuquerque NM, at the Navito lodge. The Lodge is located at 6000 Pan America Freeway. For more information about Navito Lodge call 1-888-628-4861 or 505-798-4300 and ask for the Haskell reunion rate of \$69 + tax. The Saturday evening dinner & dance pre-registration cost of \$35 per person is due by Sept 9. Send check/ MO to Loretta (Burgess) Bradford, 1402 W. 17th St, Claremore OK 74017, or e-mail at dushkut@cox.net for more information.

Thlopthlocco Reception Dinner
OKEMAH — On Sept. 16 at 4 p.m. there will be a Thlopthlocco reception dinner. The dinner will be held at the Okemah Indian Center at 1100 S. Woody Guthrie St. Okemah, located inside the MCN Casino. Their will be a short discussion about the status and an open forum discussion about the future. The following issues will also be addressed:

enrollment, constitutional amendments and the 2007 general election. All Thlopthlocco members and family are invited. Dinner will be provided however feel free to bring a special dish.

Beaver - Tiger Reunion
HANNA — On Oct. 14 starting at 10 a.m. will be the Fourth annual Beaver - Tiger reunion. Those who are related to the Beaver girl's of Hanna or the Tiger family from Tulsa, are asked to attend. The reunion will be at the Leaster Deo "old family" place. The reunion will be a potluck dinner. For more information contact Kay (Beaver) Murray at (918)-657-2275.

Francis Reunion
EUFAULA — On Sept 23, the descendants of Thomas and Christine Francis will be holding their annual Francis family reunion. The reunion will be held at Artussee Indian Baptist Church in Eufaula. Those attending are asked to bring a favorite covered dish. Fun and games will be available for the young at heart. For more information contact Anna King at (918) 437-5953.

Creek Nation 4-H
OKMULGEE — The time to purchase livestock show projects for the 2007 spring shows is fast approaching. Creek Nation 4-H has a livestock purchase program to assist youth who are Creek citizens. The program is designed to help Creek youth purchase 4-H show projects such as a pig, sheep, goat, poultry or rabbit. Cattle are not included in the program. A maximum of

\$250.00 will be allowed for each youth to purchase an animal. Assistance will also be give for the purchase of feed. An application can be downloaded from the 4-H webpage at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov and then click on the 4-H logo. To receive an application in the mail or for questions, contact the Creek Nation 4-H Coordinator at 1-800-482-1979, ext.7628.
Creek Nation 4-H also has a 4-H scholarship program to help Creek youth attend 4-H activities. These activities can include county camps, state 4-H roundup, fun trips, district camps or any official 4-H activity.

Haskell Alumni Reunion
OKLAHOMA CITY — on Oct. 27-29, Haskell Alumni Association of Oklahoma invites all Haskell alumni and friends to attend their Annual Reunion . Saturday evening dinner & dance, preregistration cost \$25 per person. For more information contact: Leon Yahola at: P.O. Box 364, Muskogee, OK 74402 or call (918) 616-3757.

Jones Academy Annual Reunion
HARTSHORE — On Oct. 21 starting at 10 a.m. with the (registration and program), Jones Academy is having it's annual reunion at the school. Lunch and dinner will be in the cafeteria, and the programs will continue from 2-5 p.m. There will be a gospel singing at 7 p.m. in the gymnasium with singers & others coming for this part of the program. Those coming for the gospel singing are welcome to join the alumni's for the evening meal. For more information contact Jimmy Bruner (580) 298-3136, Ted LeFlore (580) 889-7989 or Tully Choate (918) 455-7255.

Termination of the Veterans' Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) Program

Dear Muscogee Veterans: The EFA Program has been terminated for the main and simple fact of the abysmal compliance rate. Out of 47 checks granted to Muscogee Veterans, and surviving spouses, only 13 returned receipts within the mandatory and agreed upon 30 day time period; only a 29% compliance rate, or a 71% noncompliance rate. It was my embarrassing and reluctant presentation of these facts to our Principal Chief and the National Council that I urged to terminate the EFA Program. Chief Ellis and the National Council were shocked about the results, and heart broken over their reluctance to terminate the EFA Program at my urging. Our National Council attempted to restructure the Program, but again I urged its termination because the inescapable trend would continue with more disastrous noncompearance rates. I will not, and nor should our National Council, disperse thousands and thousands of dollars trying to secure the obvious, appropriate and mandatory compliance. For those 13 (29%) Muscogee Veterans, and surviving spouses, who complied within the 30 day time period – thank you. Ken Davis Director, VASO

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES Division of Health

Patient Registration Clerk - Okemah
High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Completion of a program or training in Medical Office Technology or a related field is preferred. A minimum of one (1) year relevant experience is required.
Manager - WIC Program - WIC
Bachelor's Degree, at least three (3) years responsible experience in nutrition or closely related field or with a Master's Degree, at least two years experience in nutrition or closely related field or if registered or eligible for registration with the American Diabetic Association (ADA), two years experience. Be registered or eligible for registration with the American Dietetic Association or be qualified as a Senior Public Health Nutritionist under the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Diabetes Educator/Coordinator - Coweta
Graduation as a RN (required) or BSN (preferred) curriculum from an accredited professional school of Nursing. One (1) year relevant experience is preferred. Must possess current State of Oklahoma Nursing License. Certification as a Diabetes Educator (CDE) is preferred, however, incumbent is required to obtain CDE status by the end of three (3) years and maintain this certification thereafter.
Chief Operating Officer (C.O.O.)
Bachelor's Degree in Business or related field is required. A Masters Degree in same area of study is preferred. Two (2) years relevant experience gained through working in a tribal setting.
Clinician - Behavioral Health Services
A Masters Degree in Counseling Psychology or related field. One (1) year relevant experience in counseling. LPC, LMFT or LCSW licensure/ certifications valid in the State of Oklahoma is preferred. Incumbents who do not possess valid licensures/ certifications as specified must be

actively working toward obtaining this licensure/certification.
Medical Technologist - Coweta
Bachelors Degree from an accredited college/university that includes completion of courses and clinical laboratory experience that satisfy ASCP eligibility requirements for Medical Technologist certification. Experience necessary to satisfy ASCP eligibility requirements. Valid ASCP certification as an MT is required.
Health System Administrator - Eufaula
Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration, Management, or related field of study is required. A Masters Degree (MPH) in a related field is preferred. A minimum of two (2) years of experience in the health care management/administration field is required, preferably in a tribal environment. Valid drivers license is required and applicant must be insurable.
Radiology Ultrasound Technician - Coweta
Incumbent must have successfully completed an accredited post-high school ultrasound program and

have completed one (1) year of directly related experience. A minimum of one (1) year of relevant experience is required. Current RDMS and RVT certification is required. RCMS certification is preferred.
Management Analyst - Lackey Hall
Bachelor's Degree in a relevant field is required. A Masters Degree is preferred. Relevant experience preferred, none required.
Billing Technician - Lackey Hall
Associate Degree in accounting or a related business field is preferred. One (1) year of relevant experience is required with an Associates Degree. Four (4) years of relevant experience may be substituted for the educational requirements stated above.
CHR Generalist - McIntosh County
High School diploma or GED equivalent is required. One (1) year relevant experience. Incumbent must possess a valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.
Ultrasound Technician - CNCH
Incumbent must have successfully completed an accredited post-high school ultrasound program and have completed one (1) year of di-

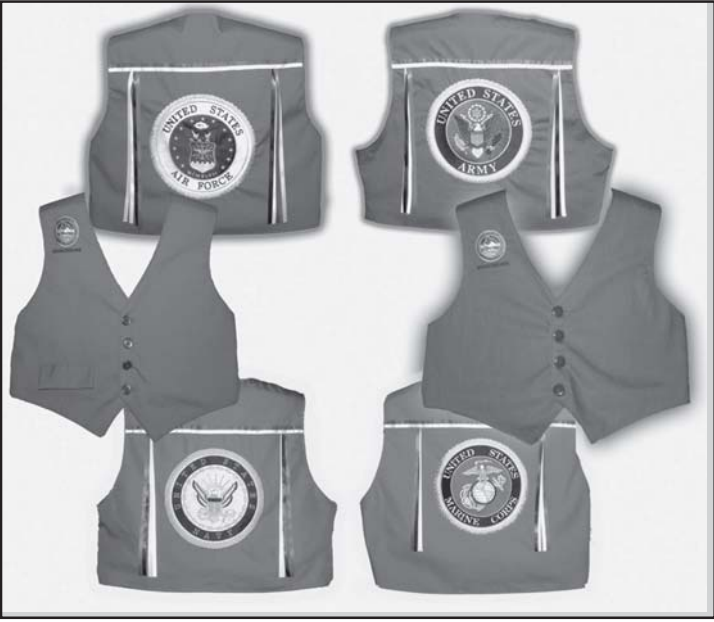
rectly related experience. A minimum of one (1) year of relevant experience is required. Current RDMS and RVT certification is required. RCMS certification is preferred.
Van Driver - Twin Hills - ENP (Part-time)
High School Diploma or GED equivalent is required. Incumbent must possess a current food handler's permit. An excellent driving record is required. Valid Oklahoma State Driver's License and be insurable.
I.T. Telecommunications Tech - Coweta
Bachelors Degree in telecommunications or related field is preferred. Associates Degree in same or related field as indicated above is required. With a Bachelors Degree, a minimum of one (1) year of relevant experience is preferred. With as Associates Degree, minimum of three (3) years of relevant experience is required. Valid Oklahoma Driver's License is required and must be insurable.
For more information, visit the website at: www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/health%20administration/ Jobs.htm or call (918) 756-4333 or (800) 782-8291.

Custom made vests available for Veterans

OKMULGEE — The National Council recently approved legislation to appropriate funding to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Veterans Affairs Office for 300 custom-made service branch vests. The legislation was unanimously approved by a vote of 22 in favor and 0 against. "Both Principal Chief Ellis and Second Chief Berryhill enthusiastically endorsed this service," said Davis. "The legislation was sponsored by Representative Anthony Notaro, and cosponsored by Representatives Shirlene Ade, Samuel Alexander, Roger Barnett, Pete Beaver, Larry Bible, Johnnie Greene, Duke Harjo, Bo Johnson, Keeper Johnson, Robert Jones, Tom Pickering, Cherrah Quiett, George Tiger

and Thomas Yahola." According to Veterans Affairs Director Ken Davis, the service branch vests will be constructed to individual measurements and are free of charge. The vests can be worn anywhere at any time as desired. Davis encourages veterans to wear the vests during the annual Veterans Day Ceremony and the forthcoming

grand opening of the new Veterans' building next year. To obtain a branch ser-



vice vest, veterans must provide

a copy of their Military Discharge and must have been discharged with one Honorable, General Under Honorable Conditions, or Under Other Than Honorable Conditions. Measurements will be taken every Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon at the Veteran's office by the seamstress. When the vests are complete, each veteran will be contacted and may pickup the vest at the Veteran's office. Only one vest per veteran will be made. For those veterans unable to come to the Veteran's office for mea-

surements, their measurements can be mailed in. Below is a guide on how to measure for the vest: shoulder tip to shoulder tip, collarbone front down to middle of belt loop, nap of the back of neck to the middle of belt loop, measure around waist over the belly button, and chest measurement. For more information or to send measurements, mail to: Ken Davis, VASO, Muscogee (Creek) Nation, P.O. Box 580, Hwy 75 & Loop 56, Okmulgee, OK 74447. Davis can also be reached at (918) 732-7739 or e-mail: kendavis@muscogeenation-nsn.gov. Notice: measurements will be taken every Wednesday until Dec 6.

Challenge Bowl to award the 1st Annual Belvin Hill Memorial Scholarship

OKMULGEE— The Challenge Bowl committee would like to announce that the “Belvin Hill Memorial Scholarship” has been established to honor the memory of one of the founding committee members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Challenge Bowl. Belvin has been involved with the Challenge Bowl since the beginning of the competition as the chair of the food committee. He already made plans for the 2007 competition and was looking forward to see all the students again this year. Many of the students will remember his smiling face behind the food distribution table and always making sure that they enjoyed his food selections.

Belvin over the past years has worked on the Challenge Bowl; question committee, language committee, compiled the study guides, compiled the officials binders, ordered the student T-shirts, bags and was one of the strongest school team recruiters for the Challenge Bowl competition.

The Challenge Bowl committee has established a \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior who is a participant of the 2007 Challenge Bowl competition. Guidelines and the application can be found on the MCN website under the Challenge Bowl information. We have also received several calls from schools and private individuals who would like to contribute towards this scholarship in memory of Belvin. You may do so, in care of the JOM Program “Belvin Hill scholarship” at Creek Nation. You may contact the JOM office at (918) 732-7843 for more information.

Scholarship Criteria

1. Must be a Senior of any tribe who is a Challenge Bowl team member and eligible to compete in the Challenge Bowl.
2. Must have a copy of their CDIB or Tribal Citizenship card.
3. Must submit a completed application.
4. Must compete in the 2007 Challenge Bowl and be present at the award ceremony.
5. Must submit a one-page typed essay on the importance of the MCN Challenge Bowl and what affect their participation has had on their personal life and school performance.
6. Must submit one letter of recommendation. (School, church, community, IEC)
7. Must submit a photograph (photo will not be returned).
8. Must submit a signed “Statement on Privacy” form with the application.
10. Submit the scholarship application no later than October 10, 2006
11. If selected, the student must, in the Spring of the graduating year, submit a copy of their acceptance and registration in their college showing full time enrollment.

Applications are available at muscogeenation-nsn.gov

2007
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

CHALLENGE
B O W L

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL COUNCIL



ELEMENTARY COMPETITION
NOVEMBER 1, 2006

MIDDLE SCHOOL COMPETITION
NOVEMBER 15, 2006

HIGH SCHOOL COMPETITION
NOVEMBER 16, 2006

Held at the First Baptist Church
311 W 5th, Okmulgee OK 74447

TEAM REGISTRATION DEADLINE
OCTOBER 4, 2006

Fax Entry Form to Melinda Taylor
at 918 - 732-7728

Contact Jeri Brandon at 918 - 732-7843
or David Gash at 918 - 732-7841

If you would like to serve as a volunteer
Contact Christie Baldrige at 918 - 759-9967

Preparing your child for college

By Robert Bible

As parents, we want our children to have more than we had when we were growing up. In today’s economy, education is the most important step on the road to economic success. Similarly, we dream that our children will grow up to be doctors, lawyers, corporate leaders, bank presidents, and even the President of the United States. However, from personal experience, once your child matriculates to college you just want them to learn the discipline of studying, developing the social skills they might have missed during their formative years, and getting that first full-time job so that you will no longer have to “fork over gas money.”

As a teacher, coach, counselor, administrator and now superintendent, I have personally witnessed students function in negative and positive situations. Somehow, the majority of the students survive many situations with the support of someone who believed in them. Throughout the years, I have always supported all students and will continue to do so; however, as a member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, I will always promote and emphasize to our Muscogee Creek students the need to be involved in academic and extracurricular activities. There are

many opportunities for our Muscogee Creek students to attend college and to get the knowledge and skills necessary to be productive Muscogee Creek citizens. It is extremely important that our Muscogee Creek students motivate and prepare themselves to compete with all students and to be proud of their Muscogee Creek heritage.

Today, with the support of Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, the National Council, OSU-Okmulgee, and many others, Muscogee Creek students will have another great opportunity to obtain a college education with the establishment of the College of the Muscogee Nation. What a tremendous and historic step our Muscogee (Creek) Nation has taken to make education a top priority for our Muscogee Creek students and citizens! This initial step in higher education will produce college graduates who will lead our great Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

So how do we prepare our students for college? Preparing for college begins at home where children develop life-long habits and values. Parents should require their children take challenging academic courses, suggest they get involved in extracurricular activities, provide them with the confidence to compete and continuously support their children by being

actively involved in their education. Parents should also make frequent appointments with their high school counselors, take their students on tours of prospective colleges, and fill out financial aid packets. Students should also be encouraged to take the ACT and SAT tests as early as possible in their high school careers. Most importantly, allow your student the opportunity to experience both success and failure!

Did I mention that you might want to give them a little extra cash for those late night study sessions? Above all, we know where they will be studying, and it will save them a call home. So be proud of your children and prepare them early for college; maybe it will only be four years to get on that road to success.

Gates Scholarship applicants sought to answer survey

By Okmulgee Daily Times

To all Muscogee (Creek) Families of Gates Scholars and Scholarship Applicants

If you or someone you know applied for or received a Gates Scholarship during 2001 or 2002 as a freshman in college, we need your help the Gates Millennium Scholars program offers minority students financial assistance with their educational needs. In return, the Gates Foundation asks that the students (recipients and non recipients of the scholarship) complete an online or phone research survey. By completing these surveys, the students can ensure that future generations will maintain this same financial opportunity.

Also, the students who applied for and did not receive the scholarship will get a \$25 check upon completion of the survey! The survey is conducted by the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago on behalf of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

You may call NORC at 1-866-521-9903 for your PIN number and Password for the on-line survey or information on how to complete the survey over the phone. Contact person: Dr. Joe L. Conner or Dr. Carol N. Conner at Paradox Consulting, 100 North 2nd Street, Fairfax, OK 74637. (918) 642-3162 or email paradox@valomet.com

Tulsa County Library upcoming events for Native American Students

College Fair for American Indian Students Saturday, Oct. 14 • 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
Central Library, second floor and the Computer Training Room • Fourth Street and Denver Avenue • (918) 596-7977

This open house features representatives from area colleges, information from tribal higher-education offices, and library resources on colleges and financial aid. In addition to making contacts, students and their parents will have an opportunity to learn about library resources related to college funding.

- Visit the Computer Training Room any time throughout the fair and find out about online resources to help in your

Search for the right college and the money to pay for that education.
Sponsored by the Tulsa Library Trust, Tulsa City-County Library’s American Indian Resource Center, Readers’ Library and Research Center.
College Financial aid: begin the Search to Fund Your Future
Thursday, Nov. 2 • 7-8:30 p.m. Central Library, Aaronson Auditorium • Fourth Street and Denver Avenue • (918) 596-7977

It’s never too early to start planning how you will finance your college education. Join college financial-aid specialists, an OHLAP representative, a high-school counselor, investment specialist and Tulsa City-County Library’s government documents librarian for information about college funding. This program is geared toward primary and secondary students and their parents and caregivers. Sponsored by the Tulsa City-County Library Research Center.
Gates Millennium Scholars Program for American Indian Students
Saturdays, Nov. 4, 18 • 10 a.m.-noon Maxwell Park Library • 1313 N. Canton • (918) 669-6055

The Gates Millennium scholarship program is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. At this workshop American Indian high-school juniors and seniors and their parents will learn about the scholarship, application requirements and the registration process. Applicants must have a minimum 3.3 GPA at the time of application and a household income of less than \$80,000. Preregistration is required and seating is limited. Owen Hawzipta, Owasso Public Schools Indian Education, and Iwannah Bonnaha, Tulsa Public Schools Indian Pupil Education Program, will lead the workshop. Sponsored by the Charles W. and Pauline K. Flint Foundation.
College Financial aid: Continue the Search to Fund Your Future
Thursday, Nov. 9 • 7-8:30 p.m. Central Library, Aaronson Auditorium • Fourth Street and Denver Avenue • (918) 596-7977

It’s never too late to pursue a college education, but the financial aspect can be daunting. If you’re an adult who is interested in starting or returning to college this program is for you! Learn about resources for financing your education from the experts. Sponsored by the Tulsa City-County Library Readers’ Library and Research Center.
Free and open to the public • If you are hearing-impaired and need a qualified interpreter, please call the library 48 hours in advance of the program. www.tulsalibrary.org • Printed through the Public Relations Office 2006.

Dartmouth College Announcement

In recognizing that diversity is a cornerstone of academic excellence, Dartmouth College invites a distinguished group of college-bound Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian high school seniors from around the country each fall to experience our academic community this summer. The Fly-In event will take place from Thursday, October 19 to Sunday, October 22, 2006. Students are selected for participation on the basis of academic achievement, personal character, and potential for future excellence. We anticipate that approximately 35 students will participate in our fall Fly-In program. Dartmouth will provide round-trip transportation assistance along with complimentary meals and on-campus housing to participants for the duration of their stay. Students will have the opportunity to visit classes, meet current undergraduate students, interact with faculty and administrators, and increase their familiarity with Dartmouth’s resources and many opportunities for enrichment. Many past participants found the Fly-In to be an invaluable aid to their college planning.

The application submission deadline is Friday, September 8, 2006. Please have students mail or the completed application, including a short essay response and a copy of their secondary school transcript (with school profile). Application materials may be sent to us by fax at (603) 646-1216. Candidates selected for participation will be notified the week of September 18. As demand for this program often exceeds our program capacity, students who are not selected should not consider our decision as an indicator of their undergraduate admission prospects at Dartmouth. The college offers a similar program in the spring for all admitted students who have not previously visited the campus.

We truly hope that you will encourage promising students to pursue this potential campus visit opportunity. If you have further questions, please call us at 1-800-860-1294, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m to 4:00 p.m eastern time. We look forward to your next contact and wish you the best for and enjoyable summer.



2006 Circle of Nations Christian Women's Conference.



Artist is Ventriloquist and Puppeteer.



NABI Tournament: Creek citizen Randy July pitches in for the Oklahoma squad.



Native American History Series: Muscogee Confederacy

by Patrick E. Moore (Continued from August 06 MNN)

He would only follow those laws that pleased him or that would further his own financial and political goals. He was drawn to the northern part of the Muscogee Confederacy by the prospects of its agriculture wealth. Jackson and his brother-in-law, John Coffee, used Jackson's influence in Washington, D.C. to buy 16,000 acres of Confederacy land for \$4.75 an acre when the going rate then was \$78.00peracre. Jackson became the one individual most responsible for the removal of the Confederacy and other southeastern tribes from their eastern homeland to the Indian Territory. He was elected President of the United States on his second attempt in 1828 and announced in his inaugural address he would see that the United States would remove all the southern tribes to Indian Territory.

Through politics and by other devices, he amassed a considerable fortune, a mansion, The Hermitage, two large plantations, thousands of acres of land, a very valuable stable of race horses, large herds of cattle and hundreds of slaves. He rewarded everyone in his family, his friends and political supporters with the spoils of his exploitation and plundering of the southeastern tribes.

He and John Coffee took part in the battle of Horseshoe Bend the most costly and bloody battle ever fought between native Americans and an invading army. One thousand Confederacy "Red Stick" soldiers from the towns of Nuyaka, Okfuscooche, Hillabee, and Eufaula led by Menawa armed with only 200 rifles defended their homeland against one thousand five hundred of Jackson's well-armed Tennessee Militia, at least five hundred Cherokee volunteers and over one hundred Muscogee "White Stick" soldiers. This definitive battle began in the mid morning hours of March 27, 1814 and by sunset over eight hundred "Red Stick" soldiers had been killed.

The Battle of Tohopeka counted the largest number of combat casualties ever sustained in a battle on the North American continent between United States led soldiers and Native American warriors. The result was the forced surrender by the Muscogee Nation of twenty three million acres of land in Alabama and Georgia. Jackson was a master of deception for often after doing battle with a Muscogee Confederacy Mekko such as Menawa or Paddy Carr he would persuade them with his usual promises that he would allow them to remain in their homeland in the east if they would only raise an army, go to Florida and fight with the United States in the Seminole War.

Jackson had more diplomatic problems with the Upper Creeks after Horseshoe Bend.

Tukvptvce, an Upper Creek, tribal town was one of the original Muscogee Confederacy towns and a member of the Confederacy long before the first Spanish explorers entered Confederacy lands in 1539. It was at Tukvptvce, the Confederacy's war Capitol, in the fall of 1811, that Shawnee Prophet Tecumseh delivered his warning speech to the Confederacy National Council. Tecumseh said, "the colonists will turn your beautiful forests into fields, muddy the clear

streams and make you slaves." Ateenage Opothle Yahola was among the five thousand Confederacy members in attendance at this meeting.

Opothle Yahola became a trusted advisor to Big Warrior, the Mekko of all Upper Confederacy towns. In May of 1824 Federal Commissioners met at Broken Arrow to negotiate a new treaty whereby the Confederacy would surrender more land and agree to move to Indian Territory. At this meeting Big Warrior told the Commissioners, "I will not take a houseful of money for the land."

Opothle Yahola was a brilliant leader of the young warriors of the Upper Towns and a Tukvptvce Mekko. Later in 1824 he was one of the Confederacy Mekkos present at Pole Cat Springs when a law was enacted by the National Council to prohibit any further land sales, under penalty of death. He was also present at Indian Springs in February 1825 when a draft treaty containing land cessions was presented by the Federal Commissioners. He personally warned William McIntosh and the Commissioners of McIntosh's fate should McIntosh sign the treaty. He is quoted as saying to the Federal Commissioners "We met you at Broken Arrow, and told you we had no land to sell. We have met you here upon very short notice, and I do not think the Mekkos present have any authority to treat. General McIntosh knows that . . . what is not done in public council is not binding. Can the council be public if all the Mekkos have not had notice, and many of them are absent? I am, therefore under the necessity of repeating what I told you at Broken Arrow, that we have no lands to sell." When he concluded his long and bitter speech he spun around and pointed at General McIntosh. "I have told you your fate if you sign that paper. I once more say, beware!"

The Confederacy Council met after William McIntosh and others signed the Indian Springs Treaty. There was long debate by the legislative body of the Muscogee Confederacy before enactment of earth shaking legislation. The Muscogee Confederacy National Council issued a death warrant and directed the execution of William McIntosh for his signing of a treaty containing land cessions. Never before nor since has a legislative body in this hemisphere issued a death warrant against an individual.

Menawa was assigned the task of executing McIntosh's death warrant. He immediately left for the McIntosh plantation and trading post with one hundred lawmenders.

The state of Georgia faked alarm, Georgia was the beneficiary of the land cession, and request federal protection from the murderous Creek Indians. The Muscogee Confederacy replied that Georgia citizens had nothing to fear, the Muscogee Confederacy was merely enforcing its own laws against its own citizens.

Opothle Yahola's portrait was painted in Washington, D.C. by Charles Bird King, during the winter of 1826, while he was at the Capitol with the Confederacy delegation protesting the illegal Treaty of Indian Springs. Colonel McKenney described him as cool, cautious, and sagacious, with a tact which would have

done credit to a more refined diplomatist.

Opothle Yahola became the most powerful leader in the Confederacy by 1827. He was against removal to Indian Territory at first but later could see that it was inevitable.

On May 28, 1830, Andrew Jackson signed into law The Removal Act. This act of the U.S. Congress provided for the removal of Indians residing in any of the states to lands west of the Mississippi River. The following are direct quotations from The Removal Act: Section III "that the United States will forever secure and guarantee to them, and their heirs or successors, the country so exchanged with them" Section VI "it shall be lawful for the President to cause such tribe or nation to be protected, at their new residence, against all interruption or disturbance . . . from any other person or persons whatever" and Section VII "That nothing in this act contained shall be construed as authorizing or directing the violation of any existing treaty between the United States and any of the Indian tribes."

Jackson wrote to the tribes that "he could be their friend only if they removed beyond the Mississippi where they could have a land of their own, which they shall possess as long as Grass grows or water runs . . . and I never speak with forked tongue."

Ten thousand (45% of the total membership) Muscogee Confederacy citizens perished during the removal process.

In 1835 he readied himself and the Tukvptvces for the journey west and finally arrived at the confluence of the North and South Canadian rivers in 1836. He had great influence in tribal affairs after his arrival in Indian Territory and was the leader of the Muscogees who remained loyal to the United States during the Civil War. He personally sent a letter to President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 requesting assistance and protection by the United States Army from this new nation in the south (The Confederate States of America) reminding President Lincoln that The United States had promised protect the Muscogee Nation, its people and lands in Indian Territory forever.

After hostilities ceased the between North and South, the Muscogee Nation received Washington's reply in the form of another administrative effort by to take fee simple Muscogee land in Indian Territory because some Muscogees sided with the Confederate States. Opothle Yahola died in Kansas, after reportedly being forced to sign a contract with an attorney, recommended by the Federal Government, who was to represent the Muscogee Nation in its negotiations to save their remaining land in Indian Territory from further exploit by the Federal Government and outsiders.

Was it fair to allow the federal government to recommend an attorney to represent the Muscogee Nation in negotiations with the federal government? Was this an exercise of the federal governments trust responsibility? Bureau of Indian Affairs approval of Indian Tribal attorneys continued into the next century and only recently was removed from the Code of Federal Regulations.

Relatives and trusted body guards disputed authenticity of the signature on this attorney contract for Opothle Yahola was always honest and true to his people and should be emulated today a real hero and leader of the old Muscogee Confederacy.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

ALBUQUERQUE—Hensci, Early August I was honored to tag along with the historic: "Traveling California Muscogee Creek Show," (my title) a production of the California Muscogee Creek Association, headed up by Eli Grayson. Officials of the nation in Oklahoma and heads and staff from various tribal agencies visited their western relatives in the LA and Bay areas. The first meeting took place on a Saturday in El Segundo in a park near LAX. Several hundred citizens who had left (or their parents or grandparents had left) Oklahoma for relocation, adventure, and/or for opportunity showed up for the event of speakers, tables with information, food and sharing. I was impressed by the diversity of citizens and considered the gifts of enrichment from each. Citizens included artists, singers, filmmakers, actors, entrepreneurs, professors, storytellers, chefs and so many others. I saw relatives I hadn't seen in awhile, like Victoria Bomberly who is now an assistant professor at the University of CA, Riverside. She raised three sons as a widow, made it through Stanford and now travels often to Bolivia for her studies. And I met many citizens for the first time, some who had come for miles to be at the gathering. The crowd enjoyed the presentations and stories of citizens from Oklahoma, like Joyce Bear, Pete Coser and Norma Marshall. I enjoyed getting to know everyone better as we worked and visited alongside each other. Despite any differences, everyone was there because of connection to the Muscogee Nation.

Very, very early the next morning we made a caravan from Los Angeles to Stockton, for the second day of presentations. As we drove the several hours north I thought of the journeys people had made from home to get here, and how no matter far away from home we travel, home always lives within us. It's the root of your being and when it's stirred up by such happenings as this you feel a little sad and happy, all at once. These meetings were a bit of a turn on the notion. Instead of going home, home came to California.

Those who have stayed and taken care of the home fires tend to be suspicious of those who left. Those who left can be a little insecure about where and how to fit. Despite this, connections were made. I won't forget Joseph Jacobs from the Holdenville area who lives in Stockton. We figured out how we are probably related on the grid of genealogy. Nor do I think any of us will forget how our spirits opened with each laugh, with each handshake or hug. We had a chance to get caught up on all the stories, the highs and lows.

The Denny's off the interstate south of Stockton and before nightfall will never be the same after our stop. We solved everything with a little nourishment and good company. And many of us feel even more resolute to help contribute to the quality of life both here and there.

I have to mention Eli Grayson. Whether or not you agree with his unforgiving vision, his fierce uncovering of truth, eventually you just have to admire someone who is exactly who they say they are, and will tell you exactly what they mean. He works tirelessly on behalf of Creek citizens, especially those west of Oklahoma, without pay and without staff. He searched out every citizen in California. He called them and asked each one of them what he could do for them, and then he did something. I know because that's how I met him when I was out there for a job. He knows genealogy like the old people. He studies the issues, history and looks into the future to see how we can all fit together. He makes sofkey and ribs for the meetings. He's one of the people who will insure that we get from here to there with some kind of grace.

By the way, there was some kind of murmuring out there in the nation about Grayson calling himself "mekko" and some other nonsense. Track down the source and you'll find someone telling stories to appear high and mighty. Or you'll discover somebody trying to distract from their own mess. We've become easily distractible these days. Mvto Eli.

Finally, one of our citizens, Stacy Pratt, Phyllis Fife's daughter is now living in northern Italy. She reports that yes, there are Creeks no matter where you go. She says: "We visited the Vatican in April, and after we left, I was reading about parts that we had not visited. It turns out that in the missionary section, there are some Creek items!...I haven't been able to go see them, but plan to visit again this fall... Well, my husband just finished making hominy, so I will end this letter and go eat it. We might be in the land of famously good Italian food, but sometimes, a Creek girl just has to have hominy." Stacy returns to the U.S. in January to attend the University of Southern Mississippi where she is working on her doctorate in creative writing. We're all proud of her.

This morning as we head into fall I feel like going fishing with Louis Littlecoon Oliver, beloved Mvskoke poet who we miss. He'd know what to say about all this.

We'll see you next month. Until then you can reach me via e-mail: nativesax@yahoo.com.



Harjo

Creek Council Oak Tree Ceremony

TULSA— This year's Council Oak Ceremony will be held on October 21, beginning at 2 p.m. at the Council Oak Park located at 18th & Cheyenne. All Ceremonial Ground members and tribal citizens are welcome to attend the ceremony.

For more information, contact Cherrah Quiett at (918) 520-9161 or Ruth Bible at (918) 732-7642.

First Americans, First Oklahomans; Indian Peoples

BROKEN ARROW — The Broken Arrow Historical Society is sponsoring a live presentation on Native American folklore and music on September 28 at the Stinchcomb Mansion and Victorian Gardens located at 1004 S. Main. For more information, call (918) 269-0752.

ATTENTION: MVSKOKE ELDERS



FROM: Jackson Barnett
Creek Nation Senior Service Manager

SUBJECT: Activities Planned or Being Planned in the Upcoming Weeks Include:

1. A Forum on Social Security in the Mound Building, September 1st, 2006 beginning at 10:30 A.M. Lunch provided.
2. Trip to Oklahoma City for Elders Conference on September 6th, 7th and 8th, 2006.
3. Trip planned to Macon, Georgia, our motherland, for the annual American Indian Celebration, September 13th thru 18th. Names being taken now for possible selection.
4. Possible trip to Moundville Archaeological Park, Alabama, the first week in October
5. Possible trip to Cahokia Mounds, St. Louis, Missouri
6. Possible trip to Carlsbad Caverns, southern New Mexico
7. A forum on diabetes presented by our own Diabetes Program
8. A forum on Medicaid fraud
9. A forum on "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren" presented by the University of Tulsa Law School
10. A Senior Olympics for those 50 and over
11. A story telling gathering

NICOA hosts 2nd Annual American Indian/Alaska Native Long Term Care Conference 2006 in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Honoring our Elders at the Second Annual American Indian and Alaska Native Long Term Care Conference 2006, scheduled for September 18 & 19, 2006.

"Native Americans have strong family ties, traditions, and a desire for independence. The rural environments where many Native Americans live are not conducive for traditional home health care models." (C. Jameson, 2006 Abstract)

This conference highlights best practices in long term care for American Indians and Alaska Natives, so come and learn from the programs that are making long term care work in urban and reservation AI/AN communities. Find out how to develop comprehensive services for Elders and the Disabled; how to get re-

sources and develop partnership networks.

LTC Conference offers an opportunity to: find new partnerships; get new ideas; learn about Aging services and how to make it accessible for your Elders; start a long term care program in your community; get family members together to plan for the well being and safety of their Elders; learn about how not to forget about the caregivers who also need support in caring for their loved ones; and learn about health promotions for Elders so that they stay independent and continue to live in their own communities.

The founding philosophy of the American Indian and Alaska Native Long Term Care Conference is "To honor our Elders, by learning from each other" in addressing issues and successfully make long term care a reality in Indian Country. For more conference information, please visit <http://www.aianlongtermcare.org/>. Thank you.

New EEOC Publication Addresses Employment Rights of People with Hearing Loss

Latest Q&A Fact Sheet Coincides with Anniversary of Landmark Disabilities Act

WASHINGTON, DC Cari M. Dominguez, Chair of the U.S. Equal Employment opportunity Commission (EEOC), today announced the issuance of a new question-and-answer (Q&A) fact sheet on the application of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to job applicants and employees who are deaf or who have hearing impairments. The new publication, the sixth in a series of Q&A documents about specific disabilities in the workplace, is available online at <http://www.eeoc.gov/facts/deafness.html>.

"One goal of this fact sheet is to counter the myth that individuals with some level of hearing loss are generally less competent, less productive, or would require more attention and supervision than their peers who do not have hearing loss," said Chair Dominguez, who announced the issuance of the new document at a town hall meeting sponsored by the National Council on Disability in observance of the 16th anniversary of the ADA.

She added: "As our nation observes the anniversary of the landmark Americans with Disabilities Act, we should be mindful that

disability does not mean inability, and that every individual deserves the freedom to compete on a fair and level playing field. People with disabilities represent a vast pool of untapped talent for employers."

The new Q&A publication includes many real-life examples that illustrate the kinds of jobs that people with hearing loss successfully perform and the wide range of accommodations available. Topics addressed in the document include:

- * When a hearing loss is a disability under the ADA;
- * When an employer may ask an applicant or employee about a hearing impairment and what it should do if an applicant voluntarily discloses the impairment;
- * What type of reasonable accommodation an applicant or employee with a hearing disability may need; and
- * What an employer should do if it has safety concerns about an applicant or employee with a hearing impairment.

According to published reports, between 2000 and 2004, estimates of the number of people in the United States with a self-described "hearing difficulty" ranged from 28.6 million to 31.5 million. A "hearing difficulty" can refer to the effects of many different hearing impairments of varying degrees. The number of individuals with hearing difficulty is expected to rise rapidly by the

year 2010 when the baby-boomer generation reaches age 65. As compared to other age groups, the percentage of individuals with hearing difficulty is greatest among those individuals age 65 and above.

EEOC's latest ADA publication helps to advance the goals of the New Freedom Initiative, President George W. Bush's comprehensive strategy for the full integration of people with disabilities into all aspects of American life. The New Freedom Initiative seeks to promote greater access to technology, education, employment opportunities, and community life for people with disabilities. An important part of the New Freedom Initiative strategy for increasing employment opportunities involves providing employers with technical assistance on the ADA.

EEOC enforces Title I of the ADA, which prohibits employment discrimination against people with disabilities in the private sector and state and local governments, and the Rehabilitation Act's prohibitions against disability discrimination in the federal government. In addition, the EEOC enforces other federal laws prohibiting employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, sex, and age. Further information about the EEOC is available on its website at <http://www.eeoc.gov>.

Traveling with Diabetes Update

The Secretary of Homeland Security has elevated the Homeland Security Advisory System Threat Condition to Severe, or Red, for all commercial flights from the United Kingdom to the United States, and to High, or Orange, for all other international flights and all domestic commercial aviation. Currently, no liquids or gels of any kind will be permitted in carry-on baggage. Items must be in checked baggage. For more information, visit this link: <http://www.tsa.gov/press/happenings/threat-change.shtm>.

Special information for people with diabetes and other conditions regarding traveling with required medication and supplies is available from the American Diabetes Association and the Transportation Security Administration. You may wish to share this information with organizations and individuals who interact with people with diabetes.

American Diabetes Association's "Traveling with Diabetes

Supplies" page:http://www.diabetes.org/advocacy-and-legal-resources/discrimination/public_accommodation/travel.jsp

Information from the Transportation Security Administration regarding:

Traveling with Diabetes
http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/specialneeds/editorial_1370.shtm#7

Travelers with Disabilities and Medical Conditions
http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/specialneeds/editorial_1986.shtm

Medications
http://www.tsa.gov/travelers/airtravel/specialneeds/editorial_1059.shtm

Notes:

* The following links are current as of August 11, 2006. If you are unable to access a link, please visit the main pages for the American Diabetes Association (www.diabetes.org) and the Transportation Security Administration (www.tsa.gov). You may wish to locate

updates by searching for information on the Transportation Security Administration's main page under the term "diabetes."

* This is the first time the Diabetes Network E-News has been used to communicate an emergent issue. Please provide us with feedback about the use of the E-News in this manner.

For questions about the Washington State Diabetes Network, the Washington State Diabetes Plan or the Diabetes Prevention and Control Program, contact Sara Eve Sarliker, Health Promotion Specialist, at sara.sarliker@doh.wa.gov or call 360-236-3963. To view the Washington State Diabetes Plan, use this link: http://www.doh.wa.gov/cfh/diabetes/diabetes_plan.htm

To be added to their distribution list, email sara.sarliker@doh.wa.gov. To help grow the Washington State Diabetes Network, consider forwarding this email to your diabetes partners.

Mvskoke Seniors for Cultural Preservation and Promotion

OKMULGEE — Since June 2006, the Mvskoke Seniors for Cultural Preservation and Promotion has been meeting once a month in Okmulgee to talk about, share and learn the old ways of the Mvskoke people which are in danger of being lost.

This informal group sent letters to Mvskoke (Creek) Nation community centers to invite interested seniors to attend these sessions. Participants have come from Okemah, Sapulpa and other areas and at the first meeting planned what they want to focus on, such as food preparation, history, stories, etc. They want to preserve and promote the culture by learning and providing information to other Mvskoke people.

One afternoon the group made sour cornbread and each person left with a recipe written in English that Lillian Thomas carefully translated into Mvsvoke.

A current topic is basket making



and the group will learn how river cane, hickory or other materials are prepared to weave into baskets and dyed from dyes made of berries.

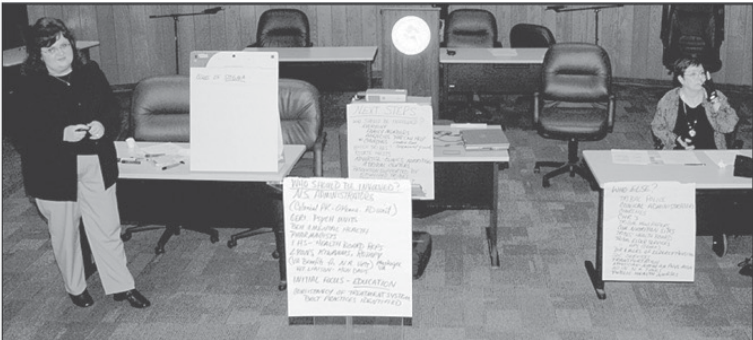
Guest artists or speakers are brought in and the group will take their time since participants range from those who have never made a basket to skilled artisans who have won awards in art competitions. Besides learning and working on a project, the group enjoys the fellowship with each other during the meetings.

Though the group has a plan for topics, they sometimes have to take detours. They have taken on

a job to make cornhusk dolls for centerpieces for a Breast Cancer Survivors Luncheon to be held in Okmulgee in October. The day they learned to make the dolls, a children's summer program was on site so group members took time to teach the children how to make cornhusk dolls. The children had an opportunity to make a fun craft as well as an opportunity to interact with the seniors.

The group meets the first or second Tuesday of the month and reminders are sent out to participants about the topics and any changes in schedule.

For information about the Mvskoke Seniors for Cultural Preservation and Promotion, contact Esther Gee at (918) 758-0970, Bertha Taylor at (918) 652-8189, or Lillian Thomas at (918) 756-2403.



Mrs. Ruth Drew and Mary Ann Duncan of the Oklahoma/Arkansas Alzheimer's Association provide presentation during the Alzheimer meeting.

Alzheimer Information Meeting

On August 24, 2006 the Alzheimer Association held a Round Table Meeting at the Mound Building on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation complex.

The purpose of the meeting was to invite professionals, tribal citizens and anyone who has an interest in obtaining information about Alzheimer's Disease. The Alzheimer's Association of Oklahoma and Arkansas Chapter has an array of services offered to tribes & tribal citizens. I was very pleased with the participation not only from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation but also the representation from the other tribes from the northeastern part of the state. I want to thank the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for allowing us to conduct a very needed meeting!

Sincerely,
David A James

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2006 Circle of Nations Christian Women’s Conference

BROKEN ARROW — The annual Circle of Nations Christian Women’s Conference will be held at the Arrow Heights Baptist Church, located at 3201 S. Elm Place on September 15 through 16. This conference is tailored to meet the needs for the situations faced in daily life, and walking with God with Biblical and real-life solutions.

The Circle of Nations Conference is open to all women and features Bible-based seminars, special speakers, special music, prayers, teachings, testimonies, food, fun, and fellowship. Women of all ages are invited including high school students.

Special Guests include; Oklahoma State Representative Lisa J. Billy, Deborah Brunt, Barbara Pack, Robyn Gomez.

Lisa J. Billy will share through motivational stories how God can transform your life from



Billy

one built upon excuses to one empowered by God. She will share her testimony of how God planted a seed within her heart to climb over the mountain of excuses and reach HIS plan for greatness and how she became the author of the strongest pro-life legislation for the State of Oklahoma. God calls each of us to use the ‘ordinary’ to become the ‘extraordinary.’ Lisa Johnson-Billy has been married to Phillip Billy for 15 years and they have three children, Masheli, Nahinli, and Anoli.

Lisa and Phillip attend Glorietta Baptist Church in Oklahoma City.

Deborah Brunt, is the author of four books, contributed to six others and has written more than 1,500 published articles. Her newest book is named “Focused Living in a Frazzled World: 105 Snapshots of Life.” Her “Table Talk” column appears monthly in the women’s devotional magazine, *Journey*. A speaker with passion for unlocking the truth and

going wherever it leads, Deborah challenges women, in particular, to pivotal involvement in things that really matter.

Barbara Pack will share God’s calling in her life to a speaking, evangelism, and prison ministry. For the past two years she has given her testimony to pastors around the state for Gideon’s and is involved with the Christian Country Music Association in Nashville, Tennessee. The Lord gave Barbara a vision for an after-care ministry to women coming out of prison or jail, helping them start life over with the center of their lives. She is passionate in her love for Christ and relates to women form all walks of life.

Music will be provided by Robyn Gomez, a featured recording Christian Artist, whose music is described as uplifting, reflective, and encouraging. Wife, mother, and homemaker, she was raised in southeastern Oklahoma where her love of music was instilled at an early age. When asked to describe her music, Robyn responded “The music that God has given me, both through His Word and my life experiences would best be expressed as honest, worshipful, and inti-



mate.” Robyn just recently finished writing and recording her third CD titled “Longing.”

Also, the Morning Star Baptist Church Praise Team will be in attendance. The Morning Star Baptist Church Praise Team is an inspired trio of young adults who sing for the love of Jesus. From intimate heartwarming lyrics to fun, upbeat music, they enjoy ministering unto the Lord and His children.

For more information or to download a registration form, log onto their website at <http://www.okindiansbc.org/circleofnationsmain.html>.

Conference Youth Stay Busy At Annual Conference Session

ANADARKO — The youth of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference stayed busy during this years Annual Conference Session held at the Southwest Regional Center near Anadarko

Included in the schedule for the conference were two opportunities for the delegates of the conference to see the youth in action. On Friday morning the youth led the devotions for the day. Ms. Courtney Tsotigh, Conference Council on Youth Ministries Chairperson, Noah White, CCYM Vice Chairperson, Jalissa Ross, CCYM Secretary, and Jacob Tsotigh, CCYM Member-At-Large, led the devotions which included two action songs, a scripture and Ponca Tribal hymn led by Noah White.

In addition to leading the devotion, the youth gave their annual report on Saturday afternoon which included a report of the past years

activities and special gifts given to the various leaders of the conference. Special survival kits were given to Bishop Hayes and wife Dee as a part of the report.

One of the highlights of the weekend was the annual youth banquet. The banquet is a time set aside by the youth to honor the graduating seniors and to have a short worship service. This year’s senior honorees included Courtney Tsotigh from Norman First American, Noah White from D.D. Etchieson, and Isaac Tartsah from J.J. Methvin. On behalf of the CCYM and the Conference youth the three seniors received a plaque recognizing them for their many years of service, and a student Bible.

In addition the youth heard a message from Ms. Jessica Weatherspoon a guest to the annual conference representing the Black College Fund and current student

at Bethune-Cookman College.

Over fifty youth were in attendance at the event held which was held at J.J. Methvin Memorial UMC.

In addition each evening the youth gathered for a time of games, recreation and ice cream. The games were led by the CCYM officers and the new Conference Youth Coordinators, Cordelia McHenry of Christ UMC and Christie Kernell of Billy Hooton UMC. The two new coordinators will begin work this summer.

The conference youth have only one remaining event on their calendar, which will be the Conference Junior High Youth Camp, to be held the last week of July. Following that the newly elected officers from the regions will be meeting in September to plan the calendar for the 2006-2007 year and also will elect conference officers.

Indian Falls Creek Update

DAVIS — Indian Falls Creek 2006 is in the books. We had a wonderful camp with 2,390 coming through the gates. Decisions are as follows:

Professions of Faith - 114, repentance - 86 and for prayer - 112. God truly honored IFC with his presence. The prayer time for Tribes and Leaders was a great success. Prayer for all 39 tribes in Oklahoma plus 12 others from across the nation were lifted up to God. Dr. Jordan was honored by IFC for 10 years of service and being a friend to our Indian people. God sent IFC two excellent preachers of whom broke the word and many responded to Gods call.

Begin praying for Indian Falls Creek 2007. The Board of Directors will be meeting at Falls Creek, September 15 & 16 to begin work on next years camp. The 2007

emphasis will be directed at our Youth and Young Adults. Start spreading the news, next year we will be in the New Tabernacle which seats 7,000 plus and is air conditioned. I can’t wait to see the finished product. Praise God! The dates for Indian Falls Creek 2007 will be July 30 - August 3. Begin making plans to attend.

Our IFC shirts were a huge success. The design depicted in silhouette Rev. Jimmy Anderson baptizing a lady from Arizona. IFC are still taking orders for these beautiful shirts. Prices - Children sizes - \$10, Adult Small - Extra Large - \$12, Double Extra Large - \$14 and Triple Extra Large - \$16. Send check, number/size of shirts ordered, and color to Victor Cope 514 Ann Drive Tecumseh, OK 74873. Make checks payable to Indian Falls Creek.



Indian Falls Creek 2006 T-shirts

Many Springs Baptist Church to honor Reverend

HOLDENVILLE — Many Springs Baptist Church will be celebrating to honor Reverend Jimmy Anderson for 50 years of service in the ministry on September 17, from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m. at Many Springs Baptist Church. All churches welcome. Honored Speaker will be Russell Begay. There will a reception dinner after the services.

For more information, call Connie Buck at (405) 379-7493 or Tiffany Ahgoom (405) 379-3721.

The church is located five miles south of Holdenville on Hwy 48.

Church Revival

BIXBY — Bemo Indian Baptist Church will be having a revival September 6 through 10 beginning at 7 p.m. nightly. Everyone welcome.

The evangelist will be Pastor John Shomowith of Myrtlewood Baptist Church. Special music will be provided by Brother Byar Beaver with the Okfuskee Indian Baptist Church.

The church is located two miles north of Bixby on Memorial Dr., 1/2 mile west on 131st St., then 1/4 mile south.

Gospel Singing

OKMULGEE — Concharty United Methodist Church will be holding a gospel singing on September 23 at 7 p.m. Everyone welcome.

For more information, call (918) 366-8450.

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BIRTHS

Nathan Benny Drew Cloud

TAHLEQUAH — Nathan Benny Drew Cloud was born April 23 to Dustin and Shannon Cloud.

He weighed 8 lbs. and 11 oz.

Nathan is of the wolf clan and the newest member of Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground.

Paternal grandparents are Benny Cloud of Bristow and the late Deborah Dilbeck of Fairfax.

Maternal grandparents are Calvin and Letha James of Tahlequah.

Nathan has two brothers; Derek, age 12 and Daniel, age 7. He also has four sisters; Destiny, age 11, Deborah, age 9, Christian, age 6 and Sadie, age 2.



Giorgio Allen Dunn

OKMULGEE — Giorgio Allen Dunn was born June 5 at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to George and Lisa Dunn.

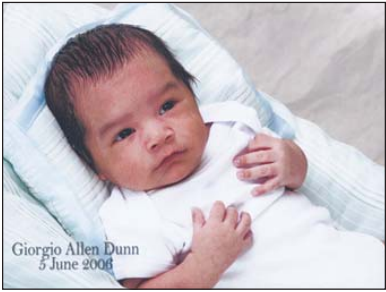
Giorgio weighed 7 lbs. and 4 oz., and was 19 ½ inches long.

Maternal grandparents are John Tottress and Ivalene Tottress.

Paternal grandparents are George and Barbara Dunn.

Paternal great grandparents are Charlie Holcomb and Eliza Sanders.

He has two older sisters, Destiny and Mercedes.



Kason Bower McGehee

CUSHING — Kason Bower McGehee was born July 11 at Cushing Regional Hospital to Kristopher and Danielle McGehee.

Kason weighed 6 lbs. and 11 oz. and measuring at 20 ½ inches long.

Paternal grandparents are Marsha Barnett and Dwain McGehee.

Maternal grandparents are Bob and Robby Booth.



BIRTHDAYS

Destiny and Alexandria Chino

PAWNEE — Destiny Gale Chino celebrated her 9th birthday on February 26 and Alexandria Louise Chino celebrated her 13th birthday on January 24, both with family and friends.

Destiny and Alex are the daughters of Theron and Stacy (Harjo) Chino.

Maternal grandparents are Henry Harjo Jr. of Tulsa and Sandra Harjo of Pawnee.

Paternal grandparents are Sandy Chino Sr. of Acomita, New Mexico and the late Diana Chino.

Maternal great grandparents are the late Henry Sr. and Judy (Wesley) Harjo of Wetumka and the late Phillip and Louise Mathews of Pawnee.

Paternal great grandparents are the late Frank and Margaret Histia of Acomita, New Mexico and Wayne Sr. the late Ameila Taylor of Second Mesa, Arizona.



Sadie Cloud

TAHLEQUAH — Sadie Cloud turned two years old on June 29th and celebrated along with her daddy, who turned 29 on June 26th.

Sadie is the daughter of Dustin and Shannon Cloud of Tahlequah.

Sadie is of the wolf clan and a member of Nuyaka ceremonial ground.

Paternal grandparents are Benny Cloud of Bristow and the late Deborah Dilbeck of Fairfax.

Maternal grandparents are Calvin and Letha James of Tahlequah.



Louis McCosar

HOLDENVILLE — Louis McCosar celebrated his 85th birthday on June 22.

A party was given in his honor at the Civic Center on June 24th with approximately 115 people in attendance.

Native gospel singing was performed by Betty B. Taylor and Dora Neconish.

Other performers included the Osceola Two, The Buck Family, Third Generation, Native Gospel Singers and the Lakeside Trio.

Trent Joseph Thompson

OKMULGEE — Trent Joseph Thompson celebrated his first birthday on August 29.

Trent is the son of Nicole Berryhill and Terry Thompson of Okmulgee.

Maternal grandparents are Joe and Esther Berryhill of Okemah.

Paternal grandparents are Rita and Jake Nunn of Schuler and Harvey Thompson of Okmulgee.

Trent has one brother, Terry Thompson Jr.



MUSCOGEE PEOPLE

Creek girl crowned HOPE Club Princess

TAHLEQUAH — Courtney Quoinquodle (Redhorn) Reeder is the 2006-2007 HOPE (Honoring Our People Existing) Club Princess.

She is a sophomore at Sequoyah High School in Tahlequah.

Courtney plays basketball and is a member of the 2005 Class 2A State Champion cross country team.

Reeder is the daughter of Sonya Reeder of Tahl-equah.

Her grandparents are Clifford and Elizabeth (Long) Reeder of Oklahoma City.

Her great grandparents are the late Rev. Newman and Hattie Long and the late Adam and Helen Kaulaity.

She is of Creek and Kiowa descent and from the Tiger clan.



Creek serves as student page for Oklahoma House

SEMINOLE — Jalin Keawphalouk of Seminole High School was recently selected among many students across the state to attend the 2006 Oklahoma Boys State Delegation, sponsored by the American Legion.

He participated in many leadership activities as well as learned about the U.S. Government.

Jalin was also nominated and selected to be a student page for the Oklahoma House of Representatives. While serving as student page for State Representative Ryan Kiesel of Seminole, Jalin had the opportunity to study about the Oklahoma State Legislature and Government.

Jalin is the son of Yotin and Clara Keawphalouk of Seminole and the grandson of the late Toby and Hattie Alexander of Lamar.



Brewster signs with UCO

EDMOND — Robyn Brewster has signed a letter of intent with the University of Central Oklahoma to play soccer for the Broncos. She will play at the forward position.

Robyn was all-district, all-conference, and an all-state performer throughout her career at Muskogee High School. She was chosen as the Most Valuable Offensive Player for Muskogee High School the last two years.

She is the daughter of Patricia Wilson Brewster.

Brewster is the granddaughter of Barbara Chaney Wilson and great-granddaughter of the late Dora S. Colbert Chaney.

She is a member of the bear clan.



Brewster accepted to Nursing school

TULSA — Sarah Brewster, was accepted into the University of Tulsa School of Nursing.

This spring, she traveled with her class to England and visited several English hospitals. After completing her nursing degree, she plans to apply for nurse anesthetist school.

Sarah is the daughter of Patricia Wilson Brewster. She is the granddaughter of Barbara Chaney Wilson and great-granddaughter of the late Dora S. Colbert Chaney.

She is a member of the bear clan.



July Tulsa

DUCK CREEK — July Tulsa celebrated his 90th birthday on July 6th with a host of family and friends.

There are five generations in July Tulsa's family.

Mr. Tulsa was born on July 6, 1916.



ENGAGEMENTS

Burden, Greer to exchange wedding vows

SAPULPA — Mr. and Mrs. Steven M. Burden of Weleetka are proud to announce the engagement of their daughter, Katie Burden, to Reggie Greer.

Reggie is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Earl Greer of Mounds.

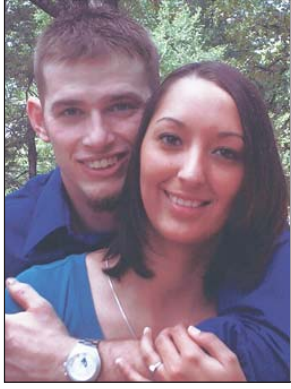
The wedding will take place July 7, 2007 at the First Presbyterian Church of Sapulpa.

Reggie is a senior at Oklahoma State University majoring in Mechanical Engineering and Math.

Katie is a member of the wind clan and her tribal town is Hitchita. Katie served as the 2006 Miss Mvskoke (Creek) Nation and is a senior at East Central University majoring in Biology. She will attend medical school in the fall of 2007.

The groom's grandparents are May Greer and the late Ralph Earl Greer Sr. of Mounds and Roland Kincheloe and the late Evelyn Kincheloe of Benbrook, Texas.

The bride's grandparents are Jerry and Dolores Wall of Okmulgee and the late Andrew Watashe and the late Bill and Mildred Burden of Weleetka.



****Tune in to the Muscogee Nation Radio Program every Wednesday morning at 9:30 a.m. on KOKL AM 1240. Listen for the extended hour program the last Wednesday of every month.****

Artist is Ventriloquist and Puppeteer

“ In the late 1970’s, Buddy left home, to pursue his career. Working with magic companies, puppetry companies and traveling across the United States and Canada with these companies and learning those valuable skills, was able to produce his very first production called “The Mini Pow Wow and Gifts and Legends.”

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Reporter

OKMULGEE— In November of this year, the longest running Native American Film Festival in the state of Oklahoma will celebrate its ninth year in existence. The Red Fork Native American Film Festival, formerly the Muscogee Film Festival will once again bring films, documentaries, and animations that are produced, directed, and showcase American Indian talent on the screen. Actors such as Wes Studi, Irene Bedard, and Graham Greene have been presented in their latest productions. Acclaimed Directors such as Chris Eyre and Randy Redroad have had their work shown in Oklahoma. A state with one of the greatest Native American populations in the country, but their work in film and video is not always known or seen here.

As with most events that continue to thrive and grow, traditions are made and become a part of the overall experience. On the opening night of each festival, a short video entitled ‘*Stumbling Bear-The Video*’ is presented. The humorous short little film was shot and edited by Native artist Dan Bigby of Stillwater. ‘*Stumbling Bear-The Video*’ contains the talent of puppeteer, Buddy Big Mountain.

With a little history about the festival being explained, we thought it would be nice to share with our readers a little more information about this extraordinary talent considering his connection to the film festival. From his web page at www.buddybigmountain.com, here is a short bio:

Buddy Big Mountain, a self taught ventriloquist, is the first internationally recognized Native American Master Ventriloquist

Puppeteer. His hilarious blend of Native American comedy, ventriloquism, singing, magic and his beautiful hand crafted Marionettes has delighted audiences around the globe, bringing a spring of laughter and wisdom to the hearts of the people he performs for. His shy, but his youthful appearance and charming personality appeals to everyone he meets.

Buddy is a registered member of the Mohawk of Kahnawake Tribe of Canada and the Iroquois Nation. He is part Comanche, Apache from his father side and Mohawk, Welsh and English from his mother side. Being very proud of his family’s heritage, earned him as one of the most popular role models today for his

contribution on supporting his heritage as a Native American Indian.

Born in Newton, New Jersey, and raised in Catskill, New York, Buddy began his introduction to the entertainment world at the age of two. Traveling with his family, Iron Horse & Family, Indian Dance Show, Buddy was able to experience the world and traveled to many countries such as Switzerland, Holland, Germany, France, and Italy. While in Switzerland, Buddy and his family was invited to perform their Native Indian Dances for the late Charlie Chaplin and his family.

In 1967, at the age of twelve, Buddy landed his first acting role on the series “*Gentle Ben*” at the Ivan Tors Studios, in Florida. While on the set, Buddy became friends with Jay Silverheels (Tonto, from the *Lone Ranger Show*), played ball with Ron Howard (Opie, from the *Andy Griffith Show*) and his brother Clint Howard (Mark, from *Gentle Ben* show) and remembered his favorite line, when he and the young cast sang “Jenny wears a flour sack dress!”

Today, Buddy has built some the finest piece of works that has ever hit the stage. Buddy’s first video “*Stumbling Bear, the Video*” was seen at several film festivals across the United States and Canada. In 1994, the video won “best animated short film” at the Native American Film Awards in San Francisco and an award from the Wind and Glacier Voices II, at the Lincoln Center, New York City. The marionette, *Stumbling Bear*, was the very first marionette Buddy had built.

In addition to his stage performances, Buddy has appeared on TNN’s cable television show “*Nashville Now*” with Ralph Emery, “*Music City Tonight*” with Crook and Chase, did a commercial spot for Silver Master Charge as Tonto, appeared in the play “*Running on Indian Time*” with Wes Studi and also appeared on many local talk and radio shows. His recent appearance was up in



Ventriloquist and Puppeteer Buddy Big Mountain surrounds himself with his many talented cast of marionettes. Big Mountain began performing at the age of two and many of his characters are based on people he has met from all over the world.

Growing up in several Theme Parks across the East Coast of United States, Buddy lived a fascinating life. Buddy and his family lived on the Theme Parks property, so after the park closes, he, and siblings would have the park to themselves and play Cowboys and Indians without an audience. However, he does remember how lonely it can be without playing with other kids, because he would have to perform after school everyday for thousands of people. So while searching for a new challenge, he would visit one of the shows and watch this ventriloquist, the late Col. Bill Boley, who eventually became a mentor for Buddy. Buddy would practice every chance he could, saying “Let me out, Let me out” without moving his lips. Boley encouraged him to continue to practice and enter the world of Ventriloquism. In the late 1970’s, Buddy left home, to pursue his career. Working with magic companies, puppetry companies and traveling across the United States and Canada with these companies and learning those valuable skills, was able to produce his very first production called “*The Mini Pow Wow*” and “*Gifts and Legends.*” He would stay up at night building all his characters from scratch.

Today, Buddy has built some the finest piece of works that has ever hit the stage. Buddy’s first video “*Stumbling Bear, the Video*” was seen at several film festivals across the United States and Canada. In 1994, the video won “best animated short film” at the Native American Film Awards in San Francisco and an award from the Wind and Glacier Voices II, at the Lincoln Center, New York City. The marionette, *Stumbling Bear*, was the very first marionette Buddy had built.

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Toronto, Canada for the first Native American Talk show “*Buffalo Tracks.*” Buddy has made two appearances since that show opened. Buddy has shared the stage in both worlds with many great performers such as his best friend Ronn Lucas (now appearing at the Rio Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada), Willie Tyler, Sinbad, Charlie Hill (first Native American Indian Comedian), Buffy Saint Marie, Floyd “Red Crow” Westerman, Williams and Ree (The Indian and The White Guy), another best friend Rodney A. Grant (Dances with Wolves) JoAnne Shenandoah, opened for Rita Coolidge, Foster Brooks, Seals and Croft, Merle Haggard and many great others. Buddy has

Documentary about Big Mountain in works

(from Henry Moore Institute)

A Documentary Film of Buddy Big Mountain will be produced/directed by David Rowe, from Wales, England. Any valuable information that you would like to share to Mr. Rowe about Buddy Big Mountain e-mail dibigmtn@aol.com. Writers Dianne Brooks and Wayne Hodge and Buddy’s wife Diana, have been collaborating to complete Buddy’s book working title “*Who’s the Dum-Me*”. Buddy wants to share his life as a child entertainer, his life on the road, the many up’s and down’s, his career and lot’s of pictures.

Pony Mountain Produc-

tion is in its early stage of tapping the first episode of Puppet Pow Wow “*A New Tradition*”. There is 12 episodes for the first season and there we will be running a contest for the 13th episode. The lucky youth ages from 7 to 17 that submits the most unique storyline and script will have the great pleasure to work with the directors and producers for Puppet Pow Wow Production, work closely on the set with Buddy Big Mountain, and maybe become a regular staff writer for the production.

For more information contact Diana Big Mountain at dibigmtn@aol.com. been a strong role model for the Education and the Performing Arts, whether performing for Colleges, Schools, Cruise Ships, Conventions and many other events, he leaves a strong message that “He wishes to inspire all walks of life around the globe to follow their dreams, to keep a song in their heart and a smile on their face”. Popular demand has Buddy returning repeatedly at several major events and schools around the globe for over 25 years as Master Ventriloquist Puppeteer. Clearly, what was once a young man’s dream has now turned into an established career and earned him the title “An American Aboriginal.”



The famous powwow marionette dancer that was used by Buddy Big Mountain for the production ‘*Stumbling Bear-The Video*’. Big Mountain chose to use the marionette for the short video that was produced by Dan Bigby of Stillwater. The comedic short which features the dancer attempting to keep in time against a mountain background with falling off has become a part of the annual Red Fork Film Festival opening.



Buddy Big Mountain prepares another of his colorful marionettes for one of his many shows. A documentary about Big Mountain who has worked with native celebrities such as Jay Silverheels is currently in the works.

California Creek Association holds 5th Annual meeting



California residents at El Segundo Park.



Sonny Marshall-Sparks enjoying Creek Hymns.



Stockton area residents gathered for group photo.



Marcus Proctor of Tobacco Prevention Program.



Office of Public Gaming Acting Commissioner, Jason Nichols.



Lorita Shaver and Floreta Anama listen to the presentations made by MCN Directors and staff.

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Circles of Care

continued from A5

aries to plan and create a mental health treatment delivery system to accommodate the needs of children and families. This grant shall define and reduce gaps & barriers to services. The goals and objectives of the “To Carry On” project are: to promote community awareness of the prevalence of mental health, suicide & substance abuse issues among Native Americans; conduct community needs assessment of the existing service system, gaps, barriers and resources by using focus groups, surveys, and key informant interviews; develop a system of care plan that will be comprehensive, culturally competent, community-driven, and feasible; and to establish an advisory council that consists of community members, family, tribal leader, school personnel, juvenile workers, spiritual healers & providers to advise grant staff on matters relating to the project.

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TIMOTHY BIGPOND
SAPULPA — Funeral services for Timothy A. (Tim) Bigpond were held August 27 at the Pickett Chapel Indian Methodist Church.

Tim was born March 9, 1959 to Roy J. Bigpond and Lilly S i m m s Cox.

H e was employed at K C F O Radio for the past 7 years but had worked in radio for 27 years.

He was a member of the Grace Church; he had ministered for 3 years in the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference and was a graduate of Rhema Bible School.

Survivors include: wife, Pamela of the home; two daughters, Teresa Higgins and Alisha Bigpond; two sons, Zachary and Donal Bigpond; four grandchildren; sister, Pauline Harjo; two brothers, Negiel and Gene Bigpond and also many aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Casketbearers were Tobby Harry, Walter Gaston, Michael Pahsetopah, Paul and Allen Little Sun and Negiel



Bigpond

Bigpond Jr.
Interment was at the Green Hill Memorial Gardens.

STELLA LOVINGS
CROMWELL — Funeral services for Stella Marie (Tiger) Lovings were held August 9 at the Alice Mack residence with Leon Bell officiating.

Stella was born August 28, 1962 in Claremore to Tema and Helen (Harley) Tiger.

She grew up in the Cromwell area and attended school at Butner. She married Reginald Lovings and moved to Oklahoma City.

Her hobbies were playing fast-pitch and spending time with her friends and family.

Survivors include: her children, Delisa, Christian, and Rashad Lovings, all of Oklahoma City; brothers, Gary of New Castle and Joseph Harley of Checotah; sisters, Annette and Nettie Tiger, both of Checotah, and Wynett Tiger of Oklahoma City.

Pallbearers included Jarrod Madden, David Montoya, Gary Harley, DeMitre Thompson, DeMarcus Moore and Tony Butler.

Interment was at the Bell-Mack Cemetery near Cromwell.

DAVID PIGEON
DUSTIN — Funeral services for David Pigeon were held August 19 at Faith Baptist Church with Reverend Mike Anderson and Reverend Herman Huffman officiating.

David was born on February 13, 1953 to Robert and Velma (Chotkey) Pigeon in Weleetka.

He attended schools in the Weleetka area. Pigeon enlisted in the Marine Corps during the Viet Nam era and served a tour of duty in Viet Nam.

After his discharge from the service he then returned to Oklahoma. He had been employed in Oklahoma City as a lawn sprinkler installer when he became ill.

Survivors include: a son, David Pigeon III of Oklahoma City; daughter, Kristi; brothers: Tuffy of Holdenville, Oscar of Hanna, Paul of South Carolina, Bobby of Tulsa, Dennis of Dustin and Adam Pigeon of Oklahoma City; sisters, Esther Gryor and Stella Pigeon, both of Hanna and Lela Goodman of Dustin; two aunts; one uncle; and four grandchildren.

Pallbearers included: Dustin, John “Boo” and J.R. Pigeon, John Gray, Johnny and Blade Goodman.

Interment was in the Pigeon Family Cemetery at Hanna.

ELIZABETH ROBERTS
OKEMAH — Funeral services for Elizabeth “Lizzy” Roberts were held August 24 at

Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church with Reverend George Doyle and Reverend Robert Washington officiating.

Elizabeth was born October 28, 1919 in Okemah to Jim and Mattie (Dunson) Mashburn.

She attended school in the Okemah area as a child and later met and married Harley Roberts who became a minister. They made their home in and around Okemah.

Preceding her in death was: her husband, Reverend Harley Roberts, and two children, Amos Fixico and Emelene Canard.

Survivors include: her children, Mitchell Roberts of Aurora, Illinois, Harley Roberts of Big Cypress, Florida, Sammy Roberts of Rattan, Amos Roberts of Okemah, Steven Roberts of Lowell, Arkansas, Nellie Fixico of Okemah, Lucy Cloud of Bristow, Louise Roberts of Okemah, Rosie Hicks of Okemah, Martha Fixico of Castle, and Ladonna Beach of Glenpool; 35 grandchildren; 31 great-grandchildren.

Interment was at the Nuyaka Cemetery in Okemah.

IRENE TIGER
OKEMAH — Funeral services for Irene Tiger were held August 22 at Buckeye Creek Baptist Church with Rev. Jimmy

Alexander and Rev. Andrew Johnson officiating.

Irene was born January 4, 1942 in Okemah to Rev. C. D. Harjo and Pauline Marie (Sands) Harjo.

She and Artman Tiger were married May 21, 1963 in Miami, Oklahoma.

Mrs. Tiger was retired from American Airlines and from Sabre. She was very active with the Thunder Road Theatre Company in Tulsa.

Preceding her in death was her parents and two brothers.

Survivors include: her husband, Artman of Owasso; two daughters, Melinda Shirley of Owasso and Melissa Allen of Broken Arrow; three brothers, Wayne Harjo and Stephen Harjo, both of Tulsa and Wilson Harjo of Chula Vista, California; three sisters, Ora Day of Chula Vista, Carol Powell and Hulda Little, both of Tulsa and two grandchildren.

Pallbearers included: Victor Gutierrez, Clark Gutierrez, Jimmy Gutierrez, Mitch Traylor, Raymond Lowe, and Freeland Powell.

Honorary bearers included: Eddie Hensley, Jim Coop, Wendell Bigpond, Don Bailey, and Bob Hicks.

Interment was at the Greenleaf Cemetery in Okemah.

Legislative

continued from A3

(CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE LEGAL SERVICES COURTS COSTS & PUBLICATION FEE REVOLVING FUND **Sponsor: Anthony Notaro (\$4,466.26)**

•**APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 06-149**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO YOUTH CENTRAL/GREEN COUNTRY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES, INC. FOR THE 2006 SUMMER CAMP **Sponsor: Pete Beaver; Co-Sponsor: Eddie LaGrone**

•**APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 06-150**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE A SET OF THE MVSKOKE LAW REPORTER FOR EACH NATIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE **Sponsor: Anthony Notaro (\$5,200.00)**

•**APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 06-151**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TRIBAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM **Sponsor: Anthony Notaro; Co-Sponsor: Shirlene Ade (\$20,000.00)**

•**APPROVED (18-0-0) NCA 06-154**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REVISING THE 2003 INDIAN HOUSING PLAN AS APPROVED BY NCA 03-123, AMENDED BY NCA 04-150, 05-081 AND 06-089 **Sponsor: Robert Jones**

REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS MCINTOSH WAS EXCUSED THEREFORE, EIGHTEEN PRESENT AND EIGHT ABSENT.

•**WILL RETURN TO COMMITTEE (11-6-0) NCA 06-156**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKMULGEE INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SMOKE SHOP AND WELCOME CENTER/GIFT SHOP **Sponsor: Jeff Fife**

(**\$38,165.00**)
VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, MCINTOSH DISTRICT; **ROBERT JONES**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **KEEPER JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **JEFF FIFE**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **BO JOHNSON**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT; **JAMES JENNINGS**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;

•**APPROVED (17-0-0) NCA 06-158**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-072 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE PURCHASE AND INSTALLATION OF EIGHT (8) NEW FLAG POLES FOR THE VETERANS’ MEMORIAL PARK AT THE MCN COMPLEX) **Sponsor: Eddie LaGrone**

•**APPROVED (17-0-0) NCA 06-161**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS NEEDED FOR THE PRINCIPAL PAY-

MENT DATE AS DEFINED WITHIN AMENDMENT TWO OF THE CONSTRUCTION LOAN AGREEMENT BETWEEN JP MORGAN CHASE, N.A. AND THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FOR THE KOWETA CLINIC **Sponsor: Johnnie Greene; Co-Sponsor: Richard Berryhill (\$1,959,000.00)**

•**APPROVED (12-5-0) NCA 06-162**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE JUBILEE CHRISTIAN CENTER OF OKMULGEE FOR THE PURCHASE OF ASPHALT FOR THE CENTER’S DRIVEWAY **Sponsor: Keeper Johnson (\$22,500.00)**

VOTING NO WERE: **LENA WIND**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT; **JAMES JENNINGS**, OKMULGEE DISTRICT;

•**APPROVED (16-1-0) NCA 06-163**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE PASSENGER VANS FOR THE DEWAR AND TWIN HILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTERS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR CREEK ELDERS **Sponsor: Keeper Johnson (\$52,178.00)**

VOTING NO WERE: **BILL FIFE**, OKFUSKEE DISTRICT;

•**APPROVED (17-0-0) NCA 06-164**, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-109 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MVSKOKE LANGUAGE PROGRAM THROUGH THE DIVISION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT) TO PROPERLY REFLECT THE CORRECT APPROPRIATION AMOUNT REQUESTED BY THE MVSKOKE LANGUAGE PROGRAM **Sponsor: Roger Barnett**

News in Indian Country: Indian voters in South Dakota win another case

by Rita Williams, Legislative Liason Affairs/Writer
reprint from Indianz.com, Wednesday, August 23, 2006

Citing a “clear” history of discrimination against Native Americans, a federal appeals court on Tuesday ordered the state of South Dakota to redraw the voting districts on two reservations.

In a unanimous decision, the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals said the state diluted the voting rights of members of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. The state packed reservation residents into one legislative district in violation of the Voting Rights Act, the court concluded.

“The record is clear that South Dakota’s history of discrimination against Native-Americans has limited their ability to succeed in the state political process,” wrote Judge Gerald W. Heaney for the majority. “The vestiges of this discrimination remain, dampening Native-American interest in South Dakota politics and af-

fecting the ability of Native-Americans to register, to vote, and to participate in the electoral process.”

The decision means the state must redraw two legislative districts on the Pine Ridge Reservation and on the Rosebud Sioux Reservation. A third district is also affected due to the changes being made on the reservations, where voters are more likely to elect an Indian candidate.

Under a plan proposed by the Indian plaintiffs, “Native-Americans would comprise over 65 percent of the voting-age population in District 27, and over 74 percent of the voting-age population in District 26A,” the court noted. “Furthermore, each proposed district includes Indian-preferred incumbents, which increases the opportunity of Native-American voters to elect their preferred candidates.”

The case, *Bone Shirt v. South Dakota*, is the latest in a string of victories for Indian voters. With the help of the American Civil Liberties Union, tribal members across the state have successfully used the Voting Right Act to make changes at the local and state level.

“This decision will give our Lakota people an opportunity to elect our candidate of choice to the state legislature,” said Alfred Bone Shirt, one of the named plaintiffs. “Discrimination against Indians has been part of South Dakota politics for so long that it is only through cases like this that we have been able to see any positive change.”

Just this past May, the 8th Circuit revived a voting rights lawsuit filed by two Oglala Sioux women. And in July 2005, the court blocked the state from trying to change a voting plan without addressing

the rights of Yankton Sioux tribal members.

Other lawsuits have been resolved in favor of Indian voters. But the state has continued to fight tribal members despite being on the losing end in the past few years.

The *Bone Shirt* case was especially contentious because state officials and state lawmakers sought to delay it by going to the state Supreme Court and by filing appeals. Their tactics delayed resolution for nearly two years — U.S. District Judge Karen Schreier made the initial ruling in the case back in September 2004.

The stakes in the battle are high. Although Native Americans make up only about 8.4 percent of the state population, they are the majority in several parts of the state and have been able to sway local and statewide elections, par-

ticularly close ones.

“This is a victory for all South Dakotans because it reaffirms the importance of fairness at the ballot box, which benefits everyone, Indians and non-Indians alike,” said Bryan Sells, an ACLU attorney who was lead counsel on the case.

At issue in the case is Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act, first passed in 1965. South Dakota is one of 16 states that must submit its voting plans to the Department of Justice for approval due to a record of discrimination against Native Americans.

Conservative Republicans nearly derailed reauthorization of the act this year by trying to remove the approval provision. They were defeated in the House and the bill was eventually signed into law by President Bush in July.

HOT CORNER

BY

JASON SALSMAN

It's finally here. I have waited long enough, and it's time to get the show on the road. There is perhaps no better time of year for a sports fan than the month of September, because it ushers in that unique exhilaration that can only be attributed to a new football season.

And here in the state of Oklahoma, football season is something of a fever pitch every year about the time the leaves start falling. There is good reason for that. Oklahoma sports history is rich in gridiron accomplishment and tradition. We not only recognize that, but it's evident all over. Case in point; you ask someone from outside Oklahoma what a "sooner" is and the response you will get 90% of the time won't have anything to do with the land run! But, we are wise to embrace those things. It's part of the identity of this state. All across Oklahoma on Friday nights the small towns are under the lights watching their beloved high school teams. Now, I know people love to believe that Texas high school football is the elite, but I would dare say that it is just as popular and well played just north of the Red River.

Speaking of high school football, players specifically, I had the pleasure of interviewing one of the best running backs in the state recently for a magazine article. Vian's Vfastv Locust, a Creek Indian, set the high school football landscape in Oklahoma on its side last year with a mind-boggling 57 touchdowns. That mark was good enough to set a new state single-season record. He also averaged close to 17 yards per carry which is almost laughable. He runs patiently, making surgically precise cuts while weaving his way down the field with a burst of quickness and speed that is unmatched. But his best quality is humility. He doesn't concern himself with records and individual glory, he just wants the team to succeed. The ability to have that mindset as an athlete in 2006, makes Vfastv Locust a rare rose in a garden of weeds. Not only the Creek Nation, but all Native Americans should be proud of this super athlete.

In the college football world, things are absolutely crazy. When was the last time we had about 10 teams that begin the season with a legitimate shot at a national championship? And here's a bold prediction; I don't think there will be one undefeated team when the smoke clears. Ahh yes, it was only a matter of time before parody was rampant in the college game.

All the faithful readers of this column from Okemah, Oklahoma to McKinney, Texas know that I would not fail to discuss some baseball. There is plenty to discuss on this end because I am not a fan of some of these teams, my beloved St. Louis Cardinals being the worst, tripping over themselves down the stretch. I know that their back-to-back 100 win seasons and playoff clinchers before September have spoiled me, and I guess it's just time for me to accept that baseball is also plagued by that thorn in my side; parody.

Oh well, why am I complaining. The average sports fan would be lying if they said they liked blow-outs over nail biters. We love our drama. Kirk Gibson's walk-off, Jordan's countless buzzer beaters, Von Schamann's "kick" at Ohio State. I think you get the picture. Think about it, what's the point if there isn't any suspense. Sports has made a living off of the fact that the only sure thing is that nothing's for sure. One thing is for sure, however, I'm sure glad it's that time again.

NABI Tournament running full force

in 2006

Creek citizen Randy July pitches in for the Oklahoma squad

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

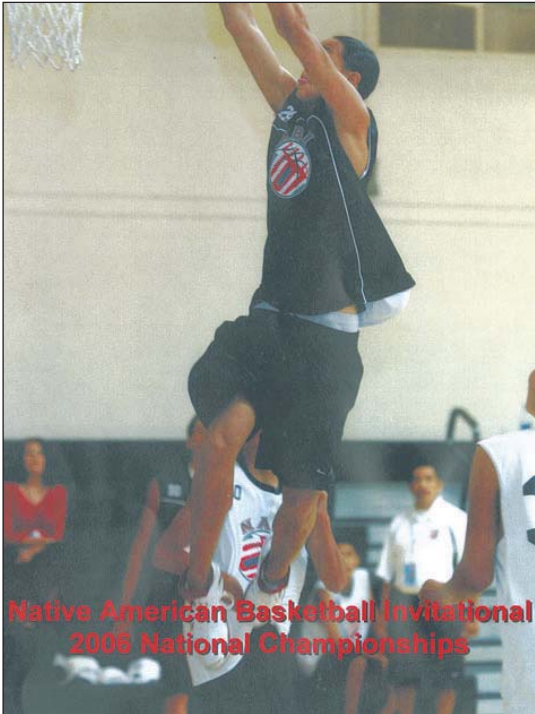
PHOENIX — Every year in July, Native Americans from across the U.S. and Canada come together for the Native American Basketball Invitational.

This year the tournament featured 24 teams chocked full of fantastic Native American talent. Competition and creating opportunities have been staples of this tournament since its inception in 2003. The tournament has increased its credibility landing major sponsorships from Nike, Phoenix Suns and Arizona Diamondbacks just to name a few.

Since it started, the tournament has gained an abundance of notoriety which has allowed organizers to attract the visitation of college scouts and recruiters.

Noted success stories in the Native community spoke to those that attended this year's event. "I came from an era where we used to jump in beat-up cars and go play on worth-

less courts," said Tex Hall, President of the National Congress of American Indians. He noted that the tournament's



Randy July, Jr.

home is Phoenix's beautiful America West Arena, home to the NBA's Suns. "This tournament should show that there are people willing to invest in you."

Several tribes were represented at the event including Creek Nation, with Randy July Jr. suiting up for a team. In a four game span, Randy racked up 71 points (17.8 per game), pulled down 29 rebounds (7.3 per game) and dazzled the crowd with 4 dunks. Randy, 16, is a junior this year at Tahlequah Sequoyah High School and lives in Tulsa.

He is the son of Randy July, Sr. of Tulsa, the grandson of the late Betty Ann (Deere) and Mose July of Tulsa. He is the great grandson of the late Hannah (Smith) and Wiley July of Checotah and Lois (Greenwood) and Dean Deere of Eufaula.

Randy is a member of the Deer clan and his tribal town is Alabama-Quassarte.

***I would like to thank Randy July, Sr. and www.nabihoops.com for the information used in writing this article.*

Creek country teams ready for big seasons

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

One of the reasons that it is so great to be an Oklahoman during the fall season is being able to watch all the great high school football action each year. With the parody that exists in high school ball, there is an abundance of teams that have title aspirations going into this season.

An added bonus is that for those of us here within the boundaries of the 11-county Creek Nation, some of the best teams in the state are right here in our backyard. So if you are looking for some quality football you're not going to have to travel that far. Here are a few teams in the area that are worth taking a look at:



Hilldale Hornets

Head Coach: Don Hendrix
Last year: 10-2 (Lost in quarterfinals)
Returning starters: 5 offense, 6 defense
Key games: Oct. 13 vs. Gibson, Oct. 19 at Sallisaw

The Lowdown

Nobody saw Hilldale's surprise run last year but the Hornets. Out of the gate with 8 straight wins, including big



Muskogee Roughers

Head Coach: Matt Hennesy (1st year)
Last year: 8-5 (Lost in state semifinals)
Returning starters: 8 defensive, 9 offensive
Key games: Week 3 at Union, Week 6 at Jenks, Week 8 vs. Booker T. Washington

The Lowdown

First-year head coach Matt Hennesy is in a great situation. He inherits a team that should have zero growing pains with 17 starters back and the best offensive combination in the state in dual threat Quarter-

back Rell Lewis and the elusive tailback Dre Stout. The added bonus here is that the team won't be warming up to a new face on the sidelines. Hennesy was an assistant last year under legendary coach Ron Lancaster. Hennesy's only problem, he admits, finding enough touches for the explosive players that make up his offense. And it's not like they need it, but Muskogee will have a chip on their shoulder after a very controversial ending to their season in last year's semifinal loss to Mustang. It's been 20 years since the Roughers won a state championship, and this writer thinks that they are due.
Prediction: 8-2, State Champions



Bixby Spartans

Head Coach: Patrick McGrew (9th year)
Last year: 12-2 (Lost in title game)
Returning starters: 6 offense, 9 defense
Key games: Week 1 vs. Jenks, Week 5 at Shawnee

The Lowdown

There is a reason that Patrick McGrew's team is rated #1 in Class 5A. With 15 starters

4 Love of the Game to hit newsstands

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA—If you are out there right now reading this article and you are frustrated, confused, wonder-

ing when there is going to be a source for non-stop Indian sports news, you should take a deep breath because help is on the way. 4 Love of the Game organization is working at this moment on the debut issue of their magazine, 4 Love of the Game, that will feature the brightest Indian athletic stars of today and tomorrow. The magazine's first issue, scheduled for release in September, will pay homage to some of the local athletes that have achieved notoriety in this region.

The cover of the September issue will feature Tahlequah Sequoyah phenom Angel Goodrich, the top girl's basketball player in the state according to CoachesAid.com. In addition, there will also be a feature story on Vian's Vfastv Locust, a Creek Indian who holds the state record for touchdowns in a single season. The magazine will not forget the past, highlighting each month accomplishments from the many Indian athletes that have become legends to those that recognize their efforts.



OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Should the MLB All-Star Game decide home field for the World Series?



All-Star team to want to try a little harder. The mid-summer

Oh, absolutely it should, I mean there should be some type of incentive for each league's

classic has always been an historic part of the baseball season. And in times past, just the joy of watching the best players from each baseball team go against each other was enough. But with times a changin', this added bonus makes the All-Star game much better, better for the teams, better for the fans.



ball. And that is saying something because he has had plenty

to choose from. I just don't see the justification in rewarding a team that may have had a worse season than their opponent the home field based on one game in early July that the players play for the fans. A World Series ring is something that a team works hard for all year. The All-Star game was always played before for fun, let's keep it that way Bud!



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The history of the current Muscogee (Creek) Government and Constitutional Convention process

There were numerous obstacles encountered implementing the revitalization of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation government in accordance with the 1979 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution. The Chief Executive's election was to be by the citizens. The National Council also was to be elected by the people. The Executive and Legislative Branches were to participate in lawmaking and the appropriation and budget process. Reformation of the Judicial Branch, lost since the allotment era, presented the Nation with major problems, all of constitutional proportions due to a failure by the Bureau of Indian Affairs to recognize this Nation's sovereign right reform its government manage its own affairs, have a court system and law enforcement agency, and function on a government to government basis with the United States of America and state of Oklahoma. Insights into these problems and the solutions will be contained in future commentary as this Nation progresses through the Constitutional Convention process.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONSTITUTION

SUBMITTED BY: _____ Muscogee (Creek) Nation Roll Number: _____
NAME AS IT APPEARS ON
YOUR MCN CITIZENSHIP CARD: _____
MAILING ADDRESS: _____
TELEPHONE: _____
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

PROPOSED AMENDMENT

ARTICLE & SECTION: _____
AMEND TO SAY: _____

PROPOSED NEW SECTION AND/OR CLAUSE

ARTICLE & SECTION: _____
ADDITION: _____

Assisted by: _____ Signature _____
Preparer's Name _____
Preparer's Signature _____

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ day of _____, 20____.

<seal>

Mail Form to:
Mvskoke Nation Supreme Court
PO Box 546 - Okmulgee, OK 74447

Notary Public
Commission Expires: _____
Commission Number: _____

As a courtesy, the following content has been provided by the office of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Sumprme Court

CONSTITUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

AS AMENDED THROUGH FEBRUARY 18, 2006

Under the guidance of the Almighty God, our Creator, We the People of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, do promote Unity, to establish Justice, and secure to ourselves and our children the blessings of Freedom, to preserve our basic Rights and Heritage, to strengthen and preserve self and local Government, in continued relations with the United States of America, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

CONSTITUTION OFTHE MUSCOGEE(CREEK)NATION

ARTICLE I

- Section 1. The name of this Tribe of Muscogee (Creek) people shall be the “Muscogee (Creek) Nation”, and is hereby organized under Section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936 (48 Stat. 1967).
- Section 2. The political jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be as it geographically appeared in 1900 which is based upon those Treaties entered into by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the United States of America; and such jurisdiction shall include, however not limited to, properties held in trust by the United States of America and to such other properties as held by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, such property, real and personal to be TAX-EXEMPT for Federal and State taxation, when not inconsistent with Federal law.
- Section 3. The official seal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be the Seal as is illustrated:

ARTICLE II

- Section 1. Each Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood shall have the opportunity for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- Section 2. This Constitution shall not abridge the rights and privileges of individual citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation enjoyed as citizens of the State of Oklahoma and of the United States of America.
- Section 3. This Constitution shall not abridge the rights and privileges of persons of Muscogee (Creek) blood for purposes of claims against the United States of America.
- Section 4. This Constitution shall not affect the rights and privileges of individual citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation in their trust relationship with the United States of America as members of a federally recognized tribe.
- Section 5. This Constitution shall not in any way abolish the rights and privileges of persons of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to organize tribal towns or recognize its Muscogee (Creek) traditions.

ARTICLE III

- Section 1. The Principal Chief shall appoint, subject to majority approval of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, a Citizenship Board comprised of five (5) citizens who shall be charged with the responsibility of the establishment and maintenance of a Citizenship Roll, showing degree of Muscogee (Creek) Indian blood based upon the final rolls prepared pursuant to the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137), and other evidence, as prescribed by ordinance.
- Section 2. Persons eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall consist of Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose names appear on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 173), and persons who are lineal descendants of those Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood whose names appear on the final rolls as provided by the act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137); (except that an enrolled member of another Indian tribe, nation, band, or pueblo shall not be eligible for citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.)
- Section 3.
- (a)

All persons eligible for citizenship shall register as an applicant for citizenship; and
- (b)

The Citizenship Board shall certify citizenship, and the declaration of citizenship may be affirmed at any time with the name of the individual being entered on the citizenship roll, and the persons being recognized as a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, provided that:

(1)

the person is a Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose name appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137), or the person is a lineal descendant of a Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose name appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137); and is not an enrolled member of another tribe, nation, or pueblo; and

(2)

has made application to the Citizenship Board to become a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation;
- (c)

Except those persons who are Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood whose name appears on the final rolls as provided by the Act of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137), shall be automatically included as citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- Section 4. Full citizenship in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be those persons and their lineal descendants whose blood quantum is one-quarter (1/4) or more Muscogee (Creek) Indian, hereinafter referred to as those of full citizenship. All Muscogee (Creek) Indians by blood who are less than one-quarter (1/4) Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood shall be considered citizens and shall have all rights and entitlement as members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation except the right to hold office.

ARTICLE IV

- Section 1. The Principal Chief shall appoint, subject to majority approval of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, an Election Board comprised of five (5) citizens who shall be charged with the responsibility of conducting, as prescribed by ordinance, all regular and special elections of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- Section 2. Every citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, regardless of religion, creed, or sex, shall be eligible to vote in the tribal elections provided that (a) they are registered voters for elections; (b) they are at least eighteen (18) years of age at the date of election, with the registrant providing sufficient proof of age to the Election Board; and (c) they hold citizenship.
- Section 3. All elections shall be by secret ballot.
- Section 4. No candidate for office shall be considered elected:
- (1)

Unless the candidate receives a majority vote of the votes cast, or
- (2)

When a candidate is unopposed for office he/she shall be automatically declared the winner.
- Section 5. If there is any office in which a candidate does not receive the required majority of votes, a run-off election shall be held between the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes in that particular election.
- Section 6. Election dates for offices of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be no more than four (4) years apart.
- Section 7. All citizens shall be allowed to vote for the Principal Chief and any such national office that shall be created.
- Section 8. Only those citizens having legal residence in a district shall be allowed to vote in an election for that district.
- Section 9. All citizens having legal residence outside the herein defined jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall declare a home district within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation which shall be recognized as his legal residence for purposes of voting in tribal elections.

ARTICLE V

- Section 1.
- (a)

The Executive power shall be vested in and shall be known as the Office of the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The Principal Chief shall hold office during a term of four (4) years upon election by majority of the votes cast. The term of office shall begin the first Monday in the new calendar year (January). No person shall serve office of Chief more than two (2) consecutive terms for which he/she is elected.
- (b)

No person, except a citizen holding full citizenship, having attained the age of thirty (30) and having been a legal resident within the political jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation for one (1) year immediately prior to filing for office, shall be eligible for Offices of Principal Chief or Second Chief.
- (c)

In the case of vacancy, whether by removal, death, or resignation of the Office of Principal Chief, the line of succession shall be the Second Chief who shall be elected in the same manner as prescribed for the Principal Chief. In the event of a vacancy of the Office of Second Chief, that an election be held within 60 days to fill the Office of the Second Chief, unless it happens within the last six months of the term in which case the term would remain vacant until the next election.
- (d)

The Principal Chief and the Second Chief shall, at stated times, receive for their services a fixed compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period of which they shall have been elected.
- (e)

Before the Principal Chief enters on the execution of his office, he shall publicly take the following oath or affirmation:

“I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute The Office of the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, and will, to the best of my ability, uphold the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.”
- Section 2.
- (a)

The Principal Chief shall create and organize the Executive Office of the Principal Chief; and
- (b)

With the advice and consent of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council appoint offices of the Executive Office. The National Council may, by ordinance, vest the appointment of such inferior offices as they think proper in the Principal Chief alone on in the officers.
- (c)

The Principal Chief shall have the power to fill vacancies by granting commissions which shall expire at the beginning of the next National Council meeting.
- Section 3. The Principal Chief shall prepare the annual budget requests and supplements thereto and with the advice and consent of the National Council administer funds within the control of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- Section 4. The Principal Chief shall from time to time however not less than once a year give to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council information of the state of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and recommend for their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient. He may on extraordinary occasions convene the Muscogee (Creek) National Council.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, as it geographically appeared in 1900, shall be divided into eight (8) districts corresponding namely with the Counties of Creek, Hughes/Seminole (Tukvpytce), McIntosh, Muskogee, Okfuskee/Seminole, Okmulgee, Tulsa, and Wagoner/Rogers/Mayes, in whole or portion thereof.

Section 2. All legislative power herein shall be vested in the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall consist of one (1) House with one (1) Representative from each district and one (1) additional representative for each 1,500 citizens. And further, that the number of National Council Representatives will be set at a maximum of twenty-six (26) members and additional seats may not be added without constitutional amendments.

- (a) Each representative shall be elected by a vote of the district and shall hold office for four (4) years. These terms of office shall be staggered to ensure that one-half of the Council stands for election every two (2) years. Beginning with the first election after this amendment is approved, those persons filing for B and D Council seats shall serve for a period of two (2) years and those persons filing for A, C and E Council seats shall serve for a period four (4) years. The B and D seats will stand for election in two years at which time the B and D seats shall commence a four-year term.
- (b) Each representative shall be a legal resident of his/her district for one full calendar year, prior to filing for office and shall be required to be an actual full time resident within that district for the term of office. When the representative ceases to be an actual resident of the district, they disqualify themselves as a representative of that district.
- (c) No person shall be a representative who has not attained the age of eighteen (18) and hold full citizenship nor has a felony conviction within the past ten (10) years as of date of filing for candidacy, in a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (d) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall elect from their numbers a Speaker, who shall preside over the Muscogee (Creek) National Council but shall have no vote unless the National Council be equally divided, and they shall choose a Second Speaker, who shall preside in the absence of the Speaker.

Section 3. The term of office shall begin at the first meeting of the National Council following the first day of January and the oath of office shall be taken at the first meeting.

- (a) A majority of the members of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall constitute a quorum to do business. A smaller number may adjourn or compel the attendance of absent members in a manner and under such penalties to be prescribed by ordinance.
- (b) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall judge of the returns and qualifications of its members, determine the rules of its proceedings, penalize its members for disorderly behavior and, with the concurrence of two-thirds (2/3) of the National Council, expel a member from a meeting.

- (a) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council member shall receive a compensation for his services, to be prescribed by ordinance and paid out of the Treasury of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- (b) The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall choose its own secretary whose compensation shall be provided by ordinance.
- (c) No Muscogee (Creek) National Council member shall, during their term of office, be appointed to any civil office under the authority of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation or such office which shall have been created or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased during such time; and no person holding any elective, appointive, or any other office whether compensated or not under the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be a member of the National Council during their continuance in office.

- (a) Every bill which shall have passed the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, before it becomes ordinance, shall be presented to the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. If he approves, he shall sign it; but, if not, he shall return it with his objections to the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, who shall enter the objections at large on their journal and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two-thirds (2/3) of the full membership of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall pass the bill, it shall become an ordinance. In such cases, the vote shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the person voting for and against shall be entered on the journal of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council. If any bill shall not be returned by the Principal Chief within ten (10) days, Sundays and holidays excepted, after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be an ordinance as if he had signed it.
- (b) Every order, resolution, or other act intended to reflect the policy of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be submitted in accordance with the rules and limitations prescribed in case of a bill.
- (c) Every ordinance, order, resolution, or other act intended to reflect the policy of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be stamped with the Seal of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and be signed by the Principal Chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Section 7. The National Council shall have the power (subject to any restrictions contained in the Constitution and laws of the United States of America) to legislate on matters subject to limitations imposed by this Constitution as follows:

- (a) To promote the public health and safety, education and welfare that may contribute to social, physical well-being and economic advancement of citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- (b) To negotiate with Federal, State, and local governments and others.
- (c) To manage, lease, prevent the sale of, dispose or otherwise deal with tribal lands, communal resources or other interest belonging to The Muscogee (Creek) Nation or reserved for the benefit of such Nation.
- (d) To authorize and make appropriations from available funds for tribal purposes. All expenditures of tribal funds shall be a matter of public record open to all the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at all reasonable times.
- (e) To enter contracts on behalf of the Nation with any legal activity that will further the well-being of the members of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.
- (f) To employ legal counsel.
- (g) To borrow money on the credit of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and pledge or assign chattels of future tribal income as security therefore.
- (h) To lay and collect taxes within the boundary of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s jurisdiction from whatever source derived.
- (i) To create authorities with attendant powers to achieve objectives allowed within the scope of this Constitution.
- (j) To exercise any power not specifically set forth in this Article which may at some future date be exercised by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

ARTICLE VII

Section 1. The judicial power of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be vested in one Supreme Court limited to matters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation’s jurisdiction and in such inferior courts as the National Council may from time to time ordain.

Section 2. The Supreme Court shall be composed of six (6) members appointed by the Principal Chief, subject to majority approval by the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, and whose term shall be for six (6) years beginning July 1. No person shall be appointed as a Supreme Court Justice who has a felony conviction in a court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 3. The Supreme Court shall, with the approval of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council establish procedures to insure that the appellant receives due process of law and prompt and speedy relief.

Section 4. The Supreme Court shall be presided over by a Supreme Court Justice chosen from their own number and shall be in regular, quarterly-scheduled session, coinciding with that of the fiscal year.

Section 5. The decision of the Supreme Court shall be in writing and shall be final.

ARTICLE VIII

Section 1. The National Council shall enact an ordinance outlining procedures and causes for removal. Such procedures shall contain, but not limited to, the certification of the required petition, as provided in Section 2 and 3 of this Article and show of cause for removal, giving the accused an impartial hearing and allowance of time to answer to notice of such hearing.

Section 2. A signed petition showing cause of removal containing twenty (20) percent of registered voters in a district shall be cause to consider removal of a council member.

Section 3. A signed petition showing cause of removal containing twenty (20) percent of the registered voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation shall be cause to consider removal of the Principal Chief, Second Chief, and/or any member of the Supreme Court. A three-fourth (3/4) vote of the National Council shall be required for removal from office

ARTICLE IX

- (a) This Constitution shall be amended by:

(1) Passage of an amendment ordinance before the Muscogee (Creek) National Council, which shall require affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the full membership of the National Council for approval.

(2) A two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of the eligible voters who vote in special election called for said purpose by the Principal Chief pursuant to the rules and regulations that the Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall prescribe.
- (b) It shall be the duty of the Principal Chief to set such election date on the request of a majority of the Muscogee (Creek) National Council within thirty (30) calendar days.

- (a) A Constitutional Convention shall be convened. The Convention shall decide the date of the next Constitutional Convention.
- (b) The Constitutional Convention membership shall consist of the voters of the Nation.
- (d) A Constitutional Convention Commission is hereby established and shall have the administrative responsibility and authority to conduct the Constitutional Convention. The Constitutional Convention Commission shall consist of one (1) person from each of the three branches of Government and one (1) person from each District selected by the Caucus of National Council Representatives of each respective District. In the event any District Caucus fails to make its appointment to the Commission on or before the first day of March in a convention year the seated members of the Commission shall have the authority to nominate and fill any vacancy.
- (e) The Constitutional Commission shall organize and promulgate rules and regulations in February and proceed to carry out the process of a Constitutional Convention that will ensure citizen input and participation from throughout the Nation, completing their work on or before next February. The Commission shall conduct public hearings throughout the Nation to accept citizen views on constitutional amendments, revisions, alterations or additions and shall prepare a public report of all proposed amendments, revisions, alterations and additions. The Constitutional Convention Commission shall then work with the Election Board to prepare wording for separate ballots for each amendment, revision, alterations or addition to be submitted to the citizens at the election, completing this work on or before the last day of February.
- (f) Constitutional Convention amendments, alterations, revisions or new articles proposed by such Convention shall be submitted to the eligible voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation at a special election, called by the Principal Chief within one hundred eighty (180) days, unless there is a General Election within one hundred eighty (180) days, and approved by a majority of the eligible voters voting thereon before the same shall be effective.
- (g) The National Council shall enact such laws as are necessary to ensure a Constitutional Convention is conducted. The National Council shall appropriate necessary funds to accomplish the Constitutional Convention.

ARTICLE X

- Section 1. This Constitution, when ratified by:
- (a) Those eligible to vote herein defined as:
 - (1) Those persons whose names appear on the final rolls of the Act of April 26, 1906 (34 Stat. 137) or
 - (2) Those persons who are lineal descendants of a person shoes name appears on the final rolls of April 26, 1906, (34 Stat. 137) and
 - (b) A majority vote of those eligible who are registered to vote who vote in this Constitution Ratification Election of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation provided at least 30 percent of those registered voters shall vote.

SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON THE DATE OF RATIFICATION

- Section 2. For the purposes of the first election of officers and representatives under this Constitution:
- (a) Those persons eligible to vote shall include all persons registered for the Constitution Ratification Election and those persons thereafter registered who are Muscogee (Creek) Indian by blood and 18 years of age or more on the date of the election.
 - (b) Each district shall elect one representative.

ADOPTED this 20th day of August, 1979, by the Creek Constitution Commission in accordance with the Court Order of September 2, 1976, in the case of Harjo v. Andrus, Case 4-189, U.S.; District Court, Washington, D.C.

CREEK CONSTITUTION COMMISSION

August 20th, 1979 /S/
Date Bryant Jesse, Chairman

/S/ /S/
Louis Fish, Commissioner Allen Harjo, Commissioner

/S/ /S/
Virginia Thomas, Commissioner Robert Trepp, Commissioner

CERTIFIED:

August 20, 1979 /S/
Date Paula L. Francis
Recording Secretary

APPROVAL

I, Sidney L. Mills, Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs, by virtue of the authority granted to the Secretary of the Interior by the Act of June 26, 1936, 49 Stat. 1967, as amended and delegated to me by 230 DM 1.1, do hereby approve the Constitution of The Muscogee (Creek) Nation subject to ratification by the qualified voters as provided in Article X of said Constitution; provided that nothing in this approval shall be construed as authorizing any action under the Constitution that would be contrary to federal law.

Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington, DC

Date: August 17, 1979

CERTIFICATE OF RESULTS OF ELECTION

The Acting Deputy Commissioner of Indian Affairs Approved the foregoing Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation on August 17, 1979

It was submitted for ratification to the qualified voters of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and was on October 6, 1979 duly ratified by a vote of 1,896 for and 1,694 against, in an election in which at least 30 percent (30%) of the 9,125 qualified voters cast their ballots in accordance with Section 3 of the Act of June 26, 1936, 49 Stat. 1967.

/S/
Bryant Jesse, Chairman

/S/
Louis Fish, Commissioner

/S/
Allen Harjo, Commissioner

/S/
Virginia Thomas, Commissioner

/S/
Robert Trepp, Commissioner

Date: October 9, 1979



MUSCOGEE NATION

OFFICIAL MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

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SECTION B - FEATURES

Inside Section B of The Muscogee Nation News: Cultural, B1 - Coming and Going in Indian Country; Elderly Living, B2 - Senior Service Manager Update; Religion, B3 - Church Activities; Lifestyles, B4 - Creek citizen joins Children's Medical Center; Legislative Jumps, B5 - Pink Party; Jumps, B6 - Legal Notice; Obituaries, B7; and Sports, B8 - Creek girl works for NBA's Orlando Magic



SECTION C - THE SCENE

Inside Section C of The Muscogee Nation News: Entertainment, C1 - Brother and Sister Musicians creating Native Hip Hop Documentary; Artists, C2 - Council House Upcoming Events; Jumps, C3 - C4



2007 COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET

During an Emergency Session on October 5 to address Amendments to the FY 2007 Budget, the National Council unanimously approved the Comprehensive Annual Budget with exclusions. Budget exclusions, authorizations and limitations in the FY 2007 include budgets for Division of Tribal Affairs, Lighthorse and Department of Health Administration.

Tribally funded programs began the new fiscal year operating off a continuing ordinance. The purpose of the Act is to provide legislative authorization and expenditure of funds until the FY 2007 Comprehensive Annual Budget law is enacted.

NOTICE

The Principal Chief has no jurisdiction or authority over the Creek Nation Health Systems. This includes bills that have not been paid. The Health Systems fall under the jurisdiction of the Community Services Committee of the National Council. Please refer all requests to this committee.

OCTOBER'S REMINDER

Council Oak Tree Ceremony will be held Oct. 21 at 2 p.m. located on 18th and Cheyenne. See Section C for further details.

Citizen no longer living in deplorable conditions

by Gerald Wofford
MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — Muscogee (Creek) Citizen Molly Brown and her family have a lot to smile about these days. Brown, who has lived in the Holdenville area since she was a little girl, was living in terrible housing conditions. Busted out walls, a caved-in floor in the bathroom, and broken windows was just a part of the description of the shack that Brown and her family were living in.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis wanted to make sure Brown didn't have to stay in those conditions any longer. Ellis, along with the Muscogee (Creek) Housing Authority, immediately began plans to construct a new home for Brown. On Sept. 14, Brown was handed keys to her new home.

Ellis stated that he wanted to make sure that Brown no longer lived in such deplorable conditions. "I had met with Mrs. Brown and we (tribe) just had to do something about this immediately."

The home stands on the allotted land near the old and decapitated house that for many years was the only residence for Brown and her family. "I am so glad to be living in a new home," said Brown. "My family and I are really going to enjoy this."

Although the presentation of keys to a new home was given much attention, David Proctor of the Housing Authority said the new home



(L to R) Principal Chief A.D. Ellis gives the keys to Molly Brown (sitting), while Wisey Brown, National Council member Shirlene Ade, and Tootsie Brown happily look on.
photo by Gerald Wofford

given to Brown is just one of many new homes being given to Muscogee (Creek) citizens on a daily basis. "We have homes being built all over the Creek Nation," said Proctor. "This is something that we (Housing Authority) do all the time."

Proctor also states that homes such as the one that Brown is receiving are constructed by EPPCO, a private contractor. EPPCO constructed the first homes for the Tiger family in Holdenville

following the loss of the homes during the wildfires this past year. Both types of homes are funded by NAHASDA and proceeds of sale monies. The National Council recently approved \$1.9 million for the construction of twenty homes.

The program is part of the Modernization of Privately Owned homes program and is titled the Alternative Housing Program. Participants must be approved through the Moderniza-

tion program. Approximately 95% of the names on this list are elderly full bloods.

Besides Ellis and Proctor, other tribal officials on hand included Executive Director Claude Sumner, Chief of Staff Mike Flud, and National Council Representative Shirlene Ade.

(For more information on Alternative Housing Program see A - 6)

"Nene Hvkoce": WALKING TRAILS PROGRAM

by Scott Robison, BS Ed.
Exercise Programs Coordinator

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council has once again showed their commitment to providing programs designed to help citizens lead a healthy lifestyle. The National Council passed legislation funding a community walking program, "Nene Hvkoce" (Walking Trails) Program. The MCN Diabetes Program Healthy Heart Project is providing funding for the program incentives.

The program sign ups will be held over the next three months with January 1, 2007 being the deadline for participant to sign up. Participants will enroll at community sign up and kick-off events. The dates for these events will be decided by the different Indian communities at their October meeting. Participants can also sign up at their local Creek Nation Health

Facility Diabetes Program. Area wide sign up date will be determined at a later date in each of the clinic area.

Participants will be provided a pedometer to log their steps, miles, or time. Points are earned everyday for different levels of activity.

Individual incentives will be awarded for meeting monthly goals and points. These incentive include program pens, water bottles, running/walking shoe wallets, fanny packs, Nike socks, sport towels, basketballs, back-

packs, Nike hats or visors, winter knit caps, hydration packs, Nike gym bags,

exercise bands, program t-shirts, exercise shoes, and Nike warm up suits. Participants will be able to report their activity to the walking program clerk via- phone, logging into the Creek Nation Web Site, or at the monthly fun /fitness meetings.

End of the year raffles will be held for all participant reaching any of the three levels of achievement. The raffle will be for three significant prizes (i.e. treadmill,

other exercise equipment, or a membership to local fitness club).

The Community Award will be a 1 mile asphalt walking track. Qualifying for this award will be based on total participation of community members. A community will need a minimum of 20 participants to accumulate enough points to earn the lowest level of achievement to be eligible for winning the walking trail. The qualifying community with the highest average points per person will be awarded the walking track. In the event that more than one community has the same average points per person, a drawing will be held to determine the winner.

For more information about the Muscogee Trails Walking Program contact your local Diabetes Program at any of the tribal health facilities.



Johnnie Brasuell, MCN Diabetes Program Manager, holds a "Walking Trails" Program T-shirt.

Tribal College acquires office space

by Jason Salsman
MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation recently received the deed to the former Social Security Building in Okmulgee to house the College of the Muscogee Nation Administration Offices. On hand for the deed signing were Creek Nation Principal Chief A.D. Ellis along with Dallas and Carol Morris and Mary Volturo.



Date set for Veterans Day ceremony

OKMULGEE — A Veteran's Day ceremony will be held on Nov. 11 at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Veterans' Memorial Park beginning at 11 a.m. The Tribe's Honor Guard will conduct the remembrance ceremony.



Letter from the Principal Chief

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

Another summer has passed and beautiful fall weather is gradually approaching. Time passes quickly when you're a senior citizen and your grandchildren and great grandchildren are growing up.

The September council meeting was last Saturday and many Veterans were honored in formation by a visiting Army General. What a great program and Veterans Affairs Office we now have, thanks to Mr. Ken Davis.

Our tribal budget is causing some concerns because, it has not been passed by the National Council. My office presented the budget to the National Council on May 16,

2006. Four and one half months should have been long enough to approve it. Now we have to work 30 days with a partial budget. Difficulties have become more prevalent between the Administration and National Council during this process but we have worked things out before and will do it again.

As the Principal Chief, I will always protect the integrity and authority of my administration and keep the three branches of government equal. If the citizens want someone to



Chief Ellis

always agree with the National Council then you will have to elect someone else. By having a \$90,000 budget for the National Council attorney and cutting my attorney budget to \$10,000 it is evident the branches of government are not equal.

I still find time to get out of the office and check on our elderly. One day I visited the home of Molly Brown near Salt Creek Church. The living conditions for this elderly full blood Creek with one leg amputated was not acceptable. This week I pre-

sented her and her two sisters keys to a new three bedroom home. This is what makes me proud to be a tribal leader and able to provide help to the needy.

Our new Housing Division is doing more work than ever before so if you are still waiting, they are providing record setting work, but sometimes the waiting period is one long because of hundreds of citizens in line.

My annual summit meeting for church leaders was in September and much information and fellowship was provided. Thanks to all who attended.

The National Elders Conference was in Tulsa this year and 1,800 elders from across America attended.

The Creek Nation Nutrition Program is the largest tribal program in America. Over 75,000 meals are served

each month, with a large part being home delivered.

Would you believe the new Tulsa Casino pad is almost completed? It looks so great to see this large piece of land cleared for building. It is due to be completed in about 20 months. This is the largest building boom and most construction under way along with the most financial income than any other time in our nations history.

We still need to do more to provide the programs that are needed and ensure a better future for all.

Remember all tribal leaders of our nation, all others and yourselves in prayer for sometimes the going gets rough.

Mvto. — A.D. Ellis

Letters to the Editor: Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Special thanks

I would like to send thanks to Chief A. D. Ellis for all you've done in helping and keeping your word. I would also like to thank the housing, Ivan Pulliam, Thomasene Osborn, Randy Colbert, and all the others who helped.

Thank you very much for your honesty and dedication. We hope to have you as our Chief for as long as possible.

Mark, Billie and Markie Baker

Youth group expresses thanks

Mvto! From the Mvskoke Youth

Stomp Dance Group to the following agencies: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Office of the Principal Chief, Thlopthlocco Tribal Town, George Tiger, Speaker of the National Council and Bill Fife, Okfuskee District National Council Representative.

Thank you for your support and contributions toward the youth group trip to the Ocmulgee Indian Celebration in Macon, Georgia on September 15-17.

With your support, we were able to make this trip possible to give an educational opportunity for the youth

to experience the fun of traveling and making new friendships as well as learning about their history and enhancing their social skills. The youth group is coordinated by Farron and Irene Culley of Okfuskee ceremonial ground. The group members were from the following ceremonial grounds: Arbeka, Nuyaka, Okfuskee, Muddy Waters and Tallahassee.

We were very proud of the group for their cooperation and conduct on this trip. Everyone who went had a good time. Mvto!

Irene Culley, Mvskoke Youth Stomp Dance Group Coordinator

TCIC expresses thanks to Tulsa district council representatives

We want to thank our Tulsa District Council representatives, the

National Council, the Principal Chief, and Mr. Steve Wilson for making it possible for us to attend the National Indian Council on Aging Conference in Tulsa on Sept. 15 -19.

It was more than we expected; the programs, workshops and activities were enjoyable and the food delicious. A few more workshops could be considered. One of the highlights was getting acquainted with other tribal members from various states. It was a blessing to greet them and to see that some tribes came in on their tribally-owned buses or chartered buses. Mvto.

Tulsa Indian Community, Mary Arkeкта; Jane Cornell; Leona Fish; and Carol Morris

Many Springs appreciates help

WMU of Many Springs Baptist

Church would like to thank the following people for all their help in making Reverend Jimmy Anderson's celebration a success. Revs. Russell Begaye, Southern Baptist Board; Ted Lam; Eddie Lindsey; Jack Comer and Gary Hawkind. Also, Kim Cravett for the slide show. Lewis Johnson for sound/video, emcee, James Bruner, Starla Bush and Tom Fields for photography, Holdenville Community Center, Speaker George Tiger, council member Paula Willits and the McCoser family, Florida Seminoles and Geneva Larney for making the quilt.

A very special thanks to everyone else not mentioned but made contributions, Thank you and God Bless.

WMU of Many Springs Baptist Church

District Court Filings for August 2006

Civil:	
Clyde West v. John Wolf	Small Claims
Community Hospital Lakeview v. Melinda McManes	Small Claims
Star Loans v. Alice Locust	Small Claims
Star Loans v. Jessina McBee	Small Claims
Star Loans v. Shannon Broncho	Small Claims
Guaranteed Auto Finance Inc., dba Automaster v. Akhtar & Wyla Yero	Foreign Judgement
Royal Finance v. Suzanna Franklin	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Alice Locust	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Katherine Willie	Small Claims
Matthew Factor v. Destiny Chennault	Petition
May Dept. Stores Co., dba Foley's v. Cheryl Gower aka McBroom	Foreign Judgement
American Exchange Bank v. Derek L. Fife	Small Claims
Citizens Security, Inc. v. Barbara West	Small Claims
Citizens Security, Inc. v. Patrick W. Hutchins	Small Claims
Citizens Security, Inc. v. Barbara West	Small Claims
Citizens Security, Inc. v. Sharen K. Dawson	Small Claims
Citizens Security, Inc. v. Mercedes Pappan	Small Claims
Citizens Security, Inc. v. Patrick W. Hutchins	Small Claims
Divorce:	
Pamela Sue Corley v. William James Corley	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage

Protective Orders:

Karen Pahsetopah v. Michael Pahsetopah

Vicky Pope v. Douglas Juneau

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Calvin Leon Barnett

MCN v. Eric Marshall Cope

MCN v. Dorene Kay Murray

Traffic:

MCN v. Gary Paul Peterson

MCN v. Jeffrey Harris

MCN v. Gary Wayne Ramey

MCN v. Kendrick Jones

MCN v. Marquita Clayton

MCN v. Marquita Clayton

MCN v. Terrick Burdine

MCN v. Terry Lynn Manuel

MCN v. Shalonda Gist

MCN v. Anthony Buller

MCN v. Troy Van Holten

MCN v. Duane Lamont Mills

MCN v. Alan Overstreet

MCN v. Wayne L. Knight Jr.

MCN v. Wayne L. Knight Jr.

MCN v. Donald Ray Bergman

MCN v. Gene Porter

MCN v. Tonya Schondel

MCN v. Tonya Schondel

MCN v. David Lee Nipper

MCN v. Marco Dywayne Johnson

MCN v. Edward Phillip Evans

MCN v. Derek Allen Williams Jr.

MCN v. Derek Allen Williams Jr.

MCN v. Eddie Lee Harrison

MCN v. Joseph Finnigan

MCN v. Todd M. Hamilton

MCN v. Joseph Finnigan

MCN v. Brian Edward Voyles

MCN v. Susan Lemons

MCN v. Michelle Butler

MCN v. Flordeliza Brown

MCN v. Joshua Whitaker

MCN v. Casey Shepherd

MCN v. Amber Tolbert

MCN v. Joseph Jenkins

MCN v. Michael Wayne Gibson

MCN v. Robert Campbell

Driving without Required Registration
Driving without Required Registration
No Seat Belt
Disorderly Conduct
Disorderly Conduct
Disorderly Conduct
Disorderly Conduct
No Insurance
No Drivers License
Expired Tag
Possession of Illegal Drug
Driving without Required Registration

Small Claims

Small Claims

Small Claims

Small Claims

Small Claims

Foreign Judgement

Foreign Judgement

Foreign Judgement

Small Claims

Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Petition

Petition to Register

District Court Order

Under Full, Faith and

Credit

Ex-Parte

Ex-Parte

Ct. 1. Aggravated Assault

Expired Tag

No Seat Belt

Driving Vehicle without

Required Registration

Driving Under Suspension

No Valid Insurance

No Seat Belt

No Seat Belt

Disorderly Conduct

Disorderly Conduct

Driving on Tribal Property with No Insurance

Invalid Driver's License

Failure to Yield Right of Way

Disorderly Conduct

Fighting in Public

Disorderly Conduct

Expired Tag

District Court Filings for September 2006

Civil:	
Ecast Settlement Corporation Assignee of MBNA America N.A. v. George Bell	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Mable Sunny Williams	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Johnnie Depriest	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Dawn Edwards	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Janice Bear	Small Claims
Creditors Recovery Corp. v. Larry Woolverton	Foreign Judgement
Asset Acceptance, LLC. v. Frances Ferguson	Foreign Judgement
Platinum Financial Services v. Jason Smith	Foreign Judgement
America's Car-Mart of Sapulpa v. Joyce Henry	Small Claims
Divorce:	
Lisa Marie Steele v. Billy R. Steele	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Michelle Moore v. Virgil Moore	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Misty Andrews v. Marshall Andrews	Petition
Family Domestic:	
TCSE, Ex Rel. Shelly Price now Sims v. Mark Adney	Petition to Register

Protective Orders:

Tamrah Frazier v. Richard Moffitt

Tamrah Frazier v. Richard Moffitt

Criminal Felonies:

MCN v. Paul Dean Tecumseh Jr.

Traffic:

MCN v. Donna Lynn Sommers

MCN v. Allen Wayne Rich

MCN v. Allen Wayne Rich

MCN v. James Kendal Posey

MCN v. James Kendal Posey

MCN v. Jason Ledbetter

MCN v. David E. Baird II

MCN v. James Coatney

MCN v. Lisa M. Hughes

MCN v. David Brown

MCN v. Jeff Davis

MCN v. Patricia Pflueger

MCN v. Ashley Chastain

MCN v. Timothy Ingram

MCN v. Brittane Smith

MCN v. Trent Bennett



Muscogee Nation News

October 2006

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month. The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

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From the desk of the Speaker

It's been a hectic budget process as hearings have been held to address the proposed Comprehensive Annual Budget for FY 2007. According to the Constitution of the great Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the Principal Chief submits a proposed budget to the National Council for their advice and consent.

The Four Standing Committees of the National Council, Business and Government; Tribal Affairs; Community Services and Cultural and Human Development schedule hearings. The hearings address the proposed budgets with the respective divisions Deputy Director, Managers and personnel. Committees use the opportunity to review past expenditures for evaluating the justification of the line items in the proposed budget. During this process the proposed budget is considered a working document, in other words, recommendations can be made by each committee according to their findings of the proposed expenditures.

The National Council has received a tremendous amount of criticism regarding the process in addressing the FY 2007 proposed budget. While the process has been lengthy and continues, the National Council's priority is appropriating funds that provide much needed services to tribal members and allowing tribal employees to provide for their families. On September 30th, the National Council passed a Continuing Resolution to provide 1/12th of funding. This practice is nothing new in the annuals of Muscogee Creek Nation government. I served on the National Council during a time our government existed on a monthly funding cycle from the Council for eleven months. This allows the government to operate while hearings/negotiations continue for final approval of the Budget. During an Emergency Session called on October 5th to address Amendments to the FY 2007 Budget, the National Council unanimously approved the Comprehensive Annual Budget with exclusions. Budget exclusions, authorizations and limitations in the FY 2007 include budgets for Division of Tribal Affairs, Lighthorse and Department of Health Administration.

However, they are authorized to continue expenditures at twenty-five (25%) of their respective budgets as provided for in the FY 2006 Comprehensive Annual Budget as approved by the National Council in NCA 05-182. Programs receiving federal funds are authorized to continue expenditures at one hundred percent (100%) of such federal awards or allocations. The process continues for the 2007 budgets for Division of Tribal Affairs, Lighthorse and Department of Health Administration until it is presented in a final form for consideration by the National Council. In the meantime, the action taken by the Council on October 5th allows for client services to be funded as proposed.

This latest action regarding the budget came about due to a number of meetings being held by this office, Second Speaker, Chief Ellis and the Controller. I have always believed this was the best and traditional way to solving problems and disagreements. The journey in this matter is not complete but it is encouraging. Sitting across the table from each other is much more effective in working problems out rather than reacting to half truths and rumors. In closing, the National Council appropriates funds to carry out the functions of the programs. Should funding for any program become limited or unavailable to our citizens, that is a reflection of people in charge of those programs, not the Council. Client service funding will receive top priority and consideration by the National Council if reflected in any budgets being proposed.

I thank those that have contacted me with words of encouragement to the National Council, until next time MVTO!



Tiger

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE(CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE JULY 29, QUARTERLY SESSION.

JULY 29, 2006, QUARTERLY SESSION.

ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVE **LARRY BIBLE** EXCUSED FOR THIS MEETING.

VETO MESSAGES:

- VETO (16-8-0) NCA 06-162, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE JUBILEE CHRISTIAN CENTER OF OKMULGEE FOR THE PURCHASE OF ASPHALT FOR THE CENTER'S DRIVEWAY RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT; ANTHONY NOTARO; TRAVIS SCOTT; ROBERT JONES; KEEPER JOHNSON; RON CLEGHORN; SAM ALEXANDER; AND PAULA WILLITS;**

- VETO OVERRIDE, (23-2-0) NCA 06-163, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PURCHASE PASSENGER VANS FOR THE DEWAR AND TWIN HILLS INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTERS TO PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION FOR CREEK ELDERS RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS;

VOTING NO WERE: **BILL FIFE AND JEFF FIFE;**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- KILLED ON THE FLOOR (24-0-0) TR 06-053, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO TAKE THE NECESSARY AND APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ENSURE THAT THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RECEIVES FULL FUNDING FROM THE IHS AS APPROPRIATED BY THE U.S. CONGRESS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006 SPONSOR: **TOM PICKERING;**
- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 06-093, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING TR 05-148 (A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO RELINQUISH ALL AUTHORITY AND CONTROL OF THE GAMING FOOD CONCESSION WITHIN THE OKEMAH CASINO TO THE OKEMAH INDIAN COMMUNITY) TO RETURN CONTROL OF THE CONCESSION WITHIN THE OKEMAH CASINO TO THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD SPONSOR: **LENA WIND;**
- FAILED ON THE FLOOR (9-15-0) TR 06-098, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TR 04-138 TO CORRECT THE TERM EXPIRATION DATE OF BRET HAYES SPONSOR: **CHERRAH QUIETT;**

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO; ROGER BARNETT; EDDIE LAGRONE; LENA WIND; BILL FIFE; ROBERT JONES; KEEPER JOHNSON; JEFF FIFE; BO JOHNSON; JAMES JENNINGS; SYLVANNA CALDWELL; SHIRLENE ADE; RON CLEGHORN; RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE;**

- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 06-099, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSKOGEE BEDOUIN SHRINE OF MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA USE OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER; CO-SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE**
- APPROVED (24-0-0) TR 06-100, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)

NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF **ALLEN WIND** TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT**

- APPROVED (23-0-1) TR 06-103, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HONORING AND BESTOWING RECOGNITION UPON **WILLIAM "BILL" BUCK** FOR HIS EXEMPLARY SERVICE TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AS A LONG-TIME BINGO AND MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEE AND MEMBER OF THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ALEXANDER; L. BIBLE**

ABSTAIN WERE: **BO JOHNSON;**

REPRESENTATIVE **LENA WIND** OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-104, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXPAND PARKING AT CREEK NATION CASINO MUSKOGEE AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS WITH THE SELECTED CONTRACTOR SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER**
- APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (24-0-0) TR 06-105, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE STRAIGHTLINE AUTO GRAPHICS & SIGNS USE OF THE GREAT SEAL OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TO BE PLACED ON THE FIRE TRUCK THAT WAS DONATED TO THE HOLDENVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE;**
- APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (24-0-0) TR 06-106, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ADOPTING THE NATIONAL INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (NIMS) SPONSOR: **PETE BEAVER**
- APPROVED (23-1-0) TR 06-107, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF ROBERT HUFFT TO SERVE ON THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: GEORGE TIGER**

VOTING NO WERE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL;**

RECOGNITION OF CANDIDATE FOR LT. GOVERNOR, **PETE REGAN.**

- APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (24-0-0) TR 06-112, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH FLINTCO FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW TULSA CASINO SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**
- APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (24-0-0) NCA 06-129, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 18, §4-104, ENTITLED "FISCAL YEAR OF THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION BOARD OF REGENTS" TO CHANGE ITS FISCAL YEAR SPONSOR: **KEEPER JOHNSON; CO-SPONSOR: DUKE HARJO;**
- KILLED ON THE FLOOR (21-3-0) NCA 06-157, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE PROVIDE SUFFICIENT FUNDING FOR THE FARM AUTHORITY TO PAY UNPAID VENDOR BILLS AND OUTSTANDING LOANS SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE** (\$321,246.74);

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING; EDDIE LAGRONE AND SYLVANNA CALDWELL;**

- APPROVED (21-1-1) NCA 06-159, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SUPPORT A POLITICAL CANDIDATE

WHO WILL ADVOCATE FOR THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION IN THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA POLITICAL ARENA SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE** (\$1,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **ROBERT JONES;**

ABSTAIN WERE: **SAM ALEXANDER;**

REPRESENTATIVE **THOMAS YAHOLA** OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 06-165, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION IN EXCESS OF 10% FOR THE OFFICE OF THE SECOND CHIEF SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT;**
- APPROVED (21-2-1) NCA 06-167, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS TO THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM FOR CONTINUED OPERATIONS THROUGH THE REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 2006 SPONSOR: **LENA WIND** (\$242,523.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **THOMAS YAHOLA AND RICHARD BERRYHILL;**

ABSTAIN WERE: **ROBERT JONES;**

- APPROVED (16-7-1) NCA 06-168, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TULSA LIBRARY TRUST AS PLEDGED IN TR 06-052 FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FIREPLACE LOUNGE AND THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CHILDREN'S STORYTIME AREA OF THE HERMAN AND KATE KAISER LIBRARY SPONSOR: **CHERRAH QUIETT** (\$81,000.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO; LENA WIND; BILL FIFE; ROBERT JONES; KEEPER JOHNSON; JEFF FIFE; SYLVANNA CALDWELL AND THOMAS YAHOLA;**

ABSTAIN WERE: **TRAVIS SCOTT;**

REPRESENTATIVE **KEEPER JOHNSON** OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED (18-6-0) NCA 06-170, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OKLAHOMA INDIAN MISSIONARY CONFERENCE FOR THE 2006 INTERNATIONAL CLERGY WOMEN'S CONSULTATION SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$2,000.00)

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO; ROGER BARNETT; THOMAS MCINTOSH; LENA WIND; BILL FIFE; ROBERT JONES; JEFF FIFE; BO JOHNSON; JAMES JENNINGS; THOMAS YAHOLA AND RICHARD BERRYHILL;**

REPRESENTATIVE **KEEPER JOHNSON** OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED (21-2-0) NCA 06-172, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MOUND BUILDING OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND UPGRADE OF THE MOUND BUILDING'S SURVEILLANCE AND SECURITY SYSTEM SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER** (\$48,110.24)

VOTING NO WERE: **ROGER BARNETT AND RON CLEGHORN;**

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (14-10-0) NCA 06-174, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RETURNING UNUSED FUNDS

TO THE TRIBAL TREASURY AND REPEALING NCA 06-074 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE VETERANS' AFFAIRS SERVICES OFFICE TO DISBURSE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MUSCOGEE VETERANS, SURVIVING SPOUSES AND ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AND THEIR SPOUSES) SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES**

VOTING NO WERE: **ANTHONY NOTARO; THOMAS MCINTOSH; BILL FIFE; ROBERT JONES; KEEPER JOHNSON; BO JOHNSON; JAMES JENNINGS; THOMAS YAHOLA; CHERRAH QUIETT AND RON CLEGHORN;**

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0) NCA 06-175, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SUMMER WORK (YOUTH) PROGRAM SPONSOR: **DUKE HARJO** (\$378,935.00)
- APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (24-0-0) NCA 06-177, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-139 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PECAN GROVE METHODIST CHURCH FOR THE PURCHASE OF A 12-PASSENGER VAN) SPONSOR: **SHIRLENE ADE** (\$20,158.00);
- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCA 06-178, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR LAND MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT FOR GRAVEL FOR THE TRIBAL DRIVEWAYS PROGRAM SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT** (\$30,000.00)

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 06-179, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-051 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE HOLDENVILLE INDIAN COMMUNITY CASINO PROJECT), AS AMENDED BY NCA 06-110, TO AUTHORIZE THE NATION TO PROPERLY BID OUT THE HOLDENVILLE CASINO PROJECT SPONSOR: **THOMAS YAHOLA;**

REPRESENTATIVE **ROBERT JONES** OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- FAILED ON THE FLOOR (10-13-0) NCA 06-182, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 05-253 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO BE USED FOR COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE OWNERSHIP OF THE FOUNTAINHEAD RESORT PROPERTY LOCATED IN MCINTOSH COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER;**

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO; ROGER BARNETT; EDDIE LAGRONE; LENA WIND; BILL FIFE; KEEPER JOHNSON; JEFF FIFE; BO JOHNSON; SYLVANNA CALDWELL; THOMAS YAHOLA; SHIRLENE ADE; RON CLEGHORN AND SAM ALEXANDER;**

- APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (24-0-0) NCA 06-185, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CLARIFYING THE POSITION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE MUSCOGEE CULTURAL AND HISTORICAL SITE OF HICKORY GROUND NEAR WETUMPKA, ALABAMA AND AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE COST OF NECESSARY MEASURES REQUIRED TO SECURE AND PROTECT THE SITE AND/OR CAUSE COMMERCIAL AND GAMING ACTIVITY TO CEASE SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE; CO-SPONSOR(S): J.**

Tulsa Promotions



Casino Promotions: \$500K Free for All Giveaway

Join us at Creek Nation Casino as we give away a half million dollars in our all new “\$500K Free for All Giveaway.” Be a part of \$500 cash drawings every Sunday through Thursday and \$250 cash drawings every Friday and Saturday. Come back every Sunday at 11 p.m. for the \$2,500 weekly drawing. Then join us on the last day of every month at 11 p.m. for the \$5,000 monthly drawing. All players who win any of these drawings will come back on Jan. 1 for our \$100,000 grand prize! (Daily August 1, 2006 – Jan. 1, 2007, Cash Drawings at 11 a.m., 2 p.m., 5 p.m., 8 p.m., and 11 p.m.)

The Sky’s the Limit (Ladies Night)

Ladies, reach for the sky with Creek Nation Casino’s The Sky’s the Limit promotion. Don’t miss your chance at \$2,500 in cash prizes and a 2007 Mitsubishi Eclipse or Saturn Sky every Monday. Swipe your card at Guest Services each Monday beginning at 5 p.m., because every fifteen minutes from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. a name will be drawn for fifteen seconds in our money machine! The two ladies with the most money after the 10 p.m. drawing will earn a key to return for the Mitsubishi Eclipse giveaway on Nov. 13. (Mondays starting at 5 p.m., now through Dec. 18)

The Sky’s the Limit (Men’s Night)

Guys, the ladies aren’t the only ones

who have a shot of winning a new set of wheels. You have your chance each Wednesday night during Creek Nation Casino’s The Sky’s the Limit promotion, with \$2,500 in cash prizes and a chance to win a 2007 Toyota Camry Solara Sport Coupe or Chevy Equinox. Swipe your card at Guest Services each Wednesday beginning at 5 p.m., because every fifteen minutes from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. a name will be drawn for fifteen seconds in our money machine! The two guys with the most money after the 10 p.m. drawing will earn a key to return for the Toyota Camry Solara giveaway on Nov. 15. (Wednesdays starting at 5 p.m., Now through Dec. 20)

MySpace @ Midnight

There’s nothing more popular today than online networking through your “MySpace” website. Creek Nation Casino is offering an extra incentive on Thursdays to all the people in the MySpace land. Just print out your MySpace home page and present it to Guest Services between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. every Thursday for five extra entries into our \$45,000 MySpace @ Midnight promotion and receive a \$3 coupon for the Full Moon Café during promotion hours. All guests may earn one free entry without having a MySpace page. Then on Oct. 12, \$5,000 winners will be drawn every hour from midnight to 2 a.m.! (Register each Thursday beginning Oct. 5; \$5,000 Drawings on Oct. 12, Nov. 16, Dec. 14)

Seniors Wake Up and Win

Seniors, rise and shine at Creek Nation

Casino Mondays and Tuesdays in October. From 7 a.m. to 11 a.m., the first 500 seniors will receive \$5 match play on any VGT machine and \$4 off the Full Moon Café’s \$5.99 breakfast buffet. What better way to start the day than with Creek Nation Casino’s Wake Up and Win promotion? (Mondays and Tuesdays, 7 a.m. – 11 a.m.)

\$10,000 Collegiate Challenge

Get into the game with Creek Nation Casino’s exciting free Collegiate Challenge contest for your chance to win big! Each week throughout the season, come to Guest Services to pick the teams you think will win the upcoming college football games. Cash prizes will be awarded weekly and grand prize money will be given to the top three scores of the entire season, including \$5,000 for 1st place, \$1,000 for 2nd place and \$500 for 3rd place. The deadline to enter each week is Saturday at 10 a.m.. (Now through Jan. 8, 2007)

Poker Promotions:

The Big Bounty Poker Tournament

Play in The Big Bounty, our newest No Limit Hold’em Tournament every Thursday and Sunday at 7 p.m. and receive an extra \$20 for every player you eliminate! Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$115.

Daily River Showdown

Pull up a seat in Oklahoma’s most upscale Poker Room for our Daily River Showdown tournaments starting at 9:30 a.m. The tournaments are open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$50.00.

Ladies Texas Hold’em Tournaments

Ladies Night Texas Hold’em tournaments start at 7 p.m. every Monday. Registration begins at 6:30 p.m. and is open to all ladies, with a total buy-in of just \$30.00.

Men’s Night - The Big One Poker Tournament

The Big One, Creek Nation Casino’s Men’s Night no-limit Texas Hold’em tournament starts at 7 p.m. every Wednesday, with registration beginning at 6:30 p.m. (\$115 total buy-in). Now with an extra \$1,000 added to the pot each week!

Texas Hold’em Progressive Bad Beat Jackpots

Losing Never Felt So Good! Creek Nation Casino’s new Progressive Bad Beat Jackpots consist of three separate progressive jackpots awarded to hands of aces full of jacks losing to a better hand. The jackpot is currently at \$50,000!

Texas Hold’em High Hands

Good hands are hard to come by, and at Creek Nation Casino, Texas Hold’em high hands pay bonuses 24 hours a day, seven days a week with progressive bonuses on four of a kind, straight flush, and royal flush hands increasing \$100 a day.

Monthly Monster Poker Tournament

Don’t miss our Monthly Monster No-Limit Texas Hold’em Tournament on the first Tuesday of each month. Register beginning at 5:30 p.m., with a \$330 Buy-in. Satellite tournaments available daily, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Blackjack Promotions:

For the Love of Blackjack

Creek Nation Casino’s blackjack pit is the only place to place for \$250 cash drawings every half hour Monday through Wednesday from noon to 6 p.m. On Sundays we bump the drawings up to \$500 with three winners every hour from noon to 6 p.m. You can earn entries into the drawings with suited blackjack of hearts or by buying in for \$100 at any table. Plus receive a \$10 bonus with a suited blackjack of hearts, and everyone else at your table will earn our famous \$5 Envy Bonus. (Qualify 24 hours a day in the blackjack pit)

Okemah Promotions

Happy Halloween!

Come in and celebrate with a costume contest, dinner buffet, and games. Costume contest will begin at 8 p.m.. Costumes will be judged by a customer and management. There will be three places, 1st - \$300, 2nd - \$200, and 3rd - \$100. Games will include “Bobbin for Prizes”, and Spin the wheel”, Players can start swiping their players cards at 5:30 p.m.. Two names, one for each game, will be drawn every 30 minutes between the hours of 6 p.m., and 10 p.m. for various prizes. Must have players card and be actively playing gaming machine to be eligible.

October Giveaway Happy Birthday

If you have a birthday in October, stop by and register with our Manager on Duty by Oct. 28 for a \$3.00 free play, T-shirt, and a birthday

cupcake. Birthday must be in October. Must have players card to be eligible.

Plinko Fridays

Every Friday in October come down to the casino and swipe your players card starting at 7:30 p.m. for your chance to win some extra cash. Beginning at 8 p.m., we’ll have a hot seat drawing every hour until 12 a.m. for a lucky customer to spin the wheel to determine how many Plinko chips they will receive. The customer will then use the chips on the Plinko board and could win up to \$500 cash. Players must be actively playing an electronic gaming machine to be eligible.

Rocket Rewards Every Sunday

Come in Sunday Oct. 1, 8, 15, and 22nd for a chance to win cash prizes. Between the hours of 6:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. a Rocket Representative will

be randomly handing out entry tickets to customers that are actively playing a rocket machine. (Cash Cow, Five Wishes, Claim Jumper, Penny Annie, Bootleggers, Forbidden Treasure, Mak’n Bak’n, and Lightning) Then every 30 minutes we will be having cash drawings. The first drawing will be at 7 p.m. and the last 9 p.m. Must be actively playing a Rocket Gaming machine to be eligible.

Texas Hold’Em

No Limit Tournaments, every Wednesday in October. Sign-ups begin at 6 p.m., first tournament starts at 7 p.m., second tournament starts at 9 p.m. \$30 per tournament includes \$5 dealer appreciation and \$5 entry fee.

Bingo Lingo

Sunday \$5 pays \$100, Monday \$4 pays \$100 (Budget Night), Tues. & Wed. Closed, Thursday \$5 pays \$100 Bingo on a free 3-on backup wins an ex-

tra \$50, Friday - Paper only \$5 pays \$100, \$10 pays \$200, Saturday; Hard Luck Plinko \$5 pays \$150; Single winner receives 1 chip for a chance to win various prizes form a free pack to full pay.

Halloween Specials Sunday Oct. 29.

\$5 pays \$100, \$10 pays \$200 Free \$200 Game with every pack purchase (include electronics)

Halloween Dinner Special

Free chili for every bingo player. Customer will receive coupon with bingo purchase. One coupon per person. Birthday packs given on Oct. 30 only. Must be able to show I.D. (Sundays) Early minis at 6 p.m., regular session starts at 7 p.m..

For more information call the Creek Nation Casino Okemah at (918) 623-0051 or visit www.creeknationcasino.com.

Three Native Gambling Websites Taken Offline

Tobacco Kings; Chapter 3

By Steve Buist and Joan Walters - The Hamilton Spectator(Oct 4, 2006)

Three Internet sites associated with online gaming at Six Nations are no longer in operation. A Spectator investigative report Monday revealed that a company listed as the operator of computer servers on the reserve hosts gaming sites that include Absolute Poker, one of the world’s most popular Internet poker destinations.

It’s not clear if the sites have been disabled temporarily or permanently. The sites are for the company SixNet and two licensing agencies, Six Nations Internet Gaming Regulatory Body and the Haldimand Mohocks and Allies Gaming Commission. The Spectator’s investigation showed the federal government has awarded more than \$1.5 million in contracts this year to SixNet.

The Six Nations regulatory body and the Haldimand Mohocks group have been identified as licensing agencies for online gambling sites. SixNet and the two licensing groups list their address as the headquarters of the Grand River Enterprises cigarette factory in Ohsweken. On one Absolute Poker web page, the logo formerly

indicating Six Nations Internet Gaming Regulatory Body as the licensing agency has been replaced with the logo of the Kahnawake Gaming Commission.

The Kahnawake commission, located on the Kahnawake reserve south of Montreal, is considered one of the world’s largest hosts of online gaming sites. On Monday, the U.S. government passed legislation prohibiting the use of credit cards, cheques and electronic fund transfers for online gaming. It is part of the American government’s ongoing attempts to criminalise Internet betting, a campaign which has been focused on gaming companies based offshore in the Caribbean or Central America.

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OVER 350 ELECTRONIC GAMES • POKER • BLACKJACK
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THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING

The following information is provided by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health

How to do a Breast Self-Examination

IN THE SHOWER fingers flat, move gently over every part of each breast. Use your right hand to examine left breast, left hand for right breast.

Check for any lump, hard knot or thickening. Carefully observe any changes in your breasts.

BEFORE A MIRROR inspect your breasts with arms at your sides. Next, raise your arms high overhead.

Look for any changes in contour of each breast, a swelling, a dimpling of skin or changes in the nipple. Then rest palm on hips and press firmly to flex your chest muscles. Left and right breasts will not exactly match - few women’s breasts do.

LYING DOWN place pillow under right shoulder, right arm behind your head. With fingers of left hand flat, press right breast gently in small circular motions, moving vertically or in a circular pattern covering the entire breast. Use light, medium and firm pressure. Squeeze nipple; check for discharge and lumps. Repeat these steps for your left breast.

Mammogram Services Available Through Muscogee (Creek) Nation

With the recent addition of mammography services at the Okemah and Koweta clinics, patients can now receive mammograms at these facilities instead of being referred outside the health system. In order to obtain a mammogram from Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN) Health System facilities patients need to schedule an appointment with a MCN or Indian Health Service provider for a clinical breast exam (CBE). At that time a referral will be written for patients to have a mammogram as indicated at either the Okemah Indian Health Facility or the Koweta Indian Health Facility, after which an appointment will be scheduled.

Health fair scheduled

WETUMKA— The Kialegee Family Life Center and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation CHR program will be holding a health fair on October 20 from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

There will be door prizes, food, heath screenings and health information available. This is free to the public and everyone is encouraged to participate.

Celebrating women’s health

EUFULA — Eufaula Indian Health Center will be holding their fifth annual Women’s Health Summit on October 25 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Eufaula Indian Community center (formerly Reil Rock Skating Rink) on Burkes access road.

The agenda for the day includes a speaker from OU medical center focusing on women’s health issues, exhibit booths from various health care organizations, door prizes and luncheon.

Call the Women’s Health Clinic at (918) 689–2540 ext. 227 for free registration. Everyone is welcome, but you must register by Oct. 18 to attend.

Creek Nation Blood Drive

OKMULGEE — The Head Start will be sponsoring a blood drive on Oct. 20 from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Human development building.

Free Delam T-shirt’s to every donor. Every donor has the chance to win an auto-graphed OU or OSU football.

For more information or to sign up contact Janice Birdcreek at (918) 732-7900 .

Doctors Note, Breast Cancer Awareness *by Zack Anderson MD, MPH*

This month is National Breast Cancer Awareness month, therefore, it is fitting for the Muscogee (Creek) Health System to share the importance of routine breast exams and mammography screening to help address and reduce the incidence of this devastating disease.

This year in America, more than 211,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 43,300 will die. One woman in eight either has or will develop breast cancer in her lifetime. In addition, 1,600 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 400 will die this year. If detected early, the five-year survival rate exceeds 95%. Mammograms are among the best early detection methods, yet 13 million U.S. women 40 years of age or older have never had a mammogram.

Breast cancer is the most common malignancy in women and the second leading cause of cancer death (exceeded by lung cancer in 1985). Breast cancer is three times more common than all gynecologic malignancies put together. The incidence of breast cancer has been increasing steadily from an incidence of 1:20 in 1960 to 1:7 women today. Breast cancer is truly an epidemic among women and we don’t know why.

Breast cancer is not exclusively a disease of women. For every 100 women with breast cancer, 1 male will develop the disease. The American Cancer society estimates that 1,600 men will develop the disease this year. The evaluation of men with breast masses is similar to that in women, including mam-mography.

The incidence of breast cancer is very low in the twenties (age) gradually increases and plateaus at the age of forty-five and increases dramatically after fifty. Fifty percent of breast cancer is diagnosed in women over sixty-five indicating the ongoing necessity of yearly screening throughout a woman’s life. While women who have a family history of breast cancer are in a higher risk group, most women who have breast cancer have no fam-ily history. If you have a mother, daughter, sister, or grandmother who had breast cancer, you should have a mammogram five years before the age of their diagnosis.

An Early Breast Cancer Detection Plan should include:

Clinical breast examinations every three years from ages 20-39, then every year thereafter.

Monthly breast self-examinations beginning at age 20. Look for any changes in your breasts.

Baseline mammogram by the age

Mammogram every one to two years for women 40-49, depending on previ-ous findings.

Mammogram every year for women 50 and older.

A personal calendar to record your self-exams, mammograms, and doctor appointments.

A low-fat diet, regular exercise, and no smoking or drinking

Risk factors for breast cancer:

Early onset of menses and late menopause.

Diets high in saturated fat.

Family history of breast cancer.

Late or no pregnancies.

Moderate alcohol intake:

Estrogen replacement therapy.

History of prior breast cancer.

Female.

Therapeutic irradiation to chest wall i.e., for Hodgkins Disease (cancer of lymph nodes).

Moderate obesity.

When breast cancer is found early, the five-year survival rate is 96%. This is good news! Over 2 million breast cancer survivors are alive in America today.

Seventy percent of all breast cancers are found through breast self-exams. Not all lumps are detectable by touch. Eight out of ten lumps are benign, or not cancerous. If you discover a persistent lump in your breast or any changes in breast tissue, it is very important that you see a physician im-mediately. Many times fear keeps women from aggressive health care. Sometimes women stay away from medical care because they fear what they might find. Take charge of your own health by monthly self-exams, regular visits to the doctor, and regularly scheduled mammograms. Mammography is a low-dose X-ray examination that can detect breast cancer up to two years before it is large enough to be felt. Do not let tales of other people’s experiences keep you from having a mammogram. Base your decision on your physician’s recommendation and ask the physician any questions you may have about the mammogram. Breast cancer is a serious problem within our population; therefore, it is imperative to keep your sched-uled well women exams and mammograms to decrease the incidence within the Native American population. Once again, MVTO, for allowing the MCNHS to share this infor-mation with you.

4th Annual Pink Party

for Breast Cancer Awareness

You are invited to attend the 2006 Pink Party to promote breast cancer awareness and education.

Guest Speaker

Exhibits

Education

Door Prizes

Refreshments

Fun & Fellowship

Wear Pink!!

Balloon Release

Pink Hats

Wednesday, October 25, 2006

1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mound

Registration will begin at 12:00

T-Shirts as available to those attending the program.

Remer winner of the 2006 Associate Provider of the Year Award

TULSA — Catherine Remer won the 2006 Associate Provider of the Year Award at the Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service Health Summit, held September 12-13. Catherine, a Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen, has worked in the Family Clinic at the Okmulgee Indian Health Center since 1999. Catherine was nominated by a co-worker who noted that Catherine receives compliments from her patients and that the care she provides is comparable to the best clinics anywhere. Catherine spends many hours thoroughly reviewing patient charts, test results, and researching the literature when needed to insure no stone is left unturned in treating patients. She was noted to have found

medication to treat a patient who had been diagnosed with Crohn’s disease

by a provider outside the Muscogee Nation Health System who had not found a suitable treatment. Catherine received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Master of Science from the University of Oklahoma. She is certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners as a Family Nurse Practitioner.



Dr. Charles Grim, Director of Indian Health Service, Catherine Remer, and John Daugherty, Area Director, Oklahoma City Area Indian Health Service.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month highlighted in displays

OKMULGEE — The Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center has a Christmas tree up year round that is decorated with a seasonal theme each month. This October, instead of the traditional Halloween black and orange, the Christmas tree has a pink décor for breast cancer awareness. The Christmas tree at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition center is adorned with pink ornaments, pink ribbons and pink lights in celebration of breast cancer awareness month in October.

Breast cancer awareness is also highlighted in a display case at the Tribal Complex. Artwork from prior year Pink Party’s are showcased in posters and T-shirts. Photos of Amos Rabbit, Muscogee (Creek) Nation tribal citizen unveiling the current year poster is on display as well as photos and newspaper articles from last year’s Pink party. Also on display are corn husk dolls made by the Mvskoke Seniors for Cultural Preservation and Promotion. The corn husk dolls have been adorned in pink clothing.

Breast cancer awareness brochures are available at both displays. The displays were created by staff of the Women’s Health Clinic, Okmulgee Indian Health Center. For more information on breast cancer awareness activities, call (918) 758-2717.



Pink party display case at the creek Complex.



Christmas tree displayed at the elderly nutrition center.

Rabbit created “Pink Party” artwork for fourth year

OKMULGEE — For the fourth year, Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen, Amos Rabbit, of Okemah, has created the artwork for the annual Pink Party, a breast cancer awareness event to be held from 1 to 4 p.m. October 25 at the Mound Building. Breast cancer is a topic that touches close to home since he has family members who are breast cancer survivors. A self-taught artist, Amos had always sketched and painted only for his wife and daughters until he began creating art for the annual Pink Party. Amos and his family lived in

the San Francisco Bay area for 30 years before returning to Oklahoma where he retired as a millwright. Now that

he is retired, Amos enjoys drawing, attending softball and basketball games, pow-wows, traveling, and serving as a volunteer firefighter and Vice President of the Sunrise Volunteer Fire Department. He also enjoys spending time with his family, including wife, Pauline Jones Rabbit, daughters, Sheila Ramirez of Union City, CA, Tammy Rabbit of Okmulgee, Kimberly Silva of Latrop, CA, and six grandchildren who live in Oklahoma and California. Amos is a U.S. Army veteran and is the son of the late Edmond and Bertha Rabbit of Morris, Oklahoma.



Amos Rabbit (left) and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill (right) unveil the poster for the Fourth Annual Pink Party, a breast cancer awareness event.

Alternative Housing Program

MOLLY BROWN

Molly Brown is typical of many of the elderly Creek Citizens that are being helped by the Housing Division's Alternative Housing Program. Many often want something as simple as a handicap ramp or maybe some plumbing or roofing repairs while not even thinking about the fact that their whole house needs repairing.

In Molly Brown's case, she may have never asked for anything had it not been for Community Health Representative, DeLois Roulston who contacted someone about getting her a handicap ramp and having work done on her house. After contacting housing and going thru the usual paperwork and approval for the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes Program an inspector was sent to her house to see



Molly Brown's new Alternative Home with her old home in the background.

about building her a ramp and rehabbing her home. After inspection of the house it was determined that the house was substandard and unfeasible for repair. That's when she became a prime candidate for the Alternative Housing Program.

This was a typical scenario of many of the Alternative Housing recipients. Asking for little but receiving more then their words can express. Most describe the modest but efficient home as a dream come true.

Anyone who might like to donate home furnishing or furniture to the Brown family may call Ms. Roulston at 918-756-1941.



Chief Ellis presents Molly Brown the keys to her new home. Looking on are Wisey Brown(sister), Tukvpytce District Representative Shirlene Ade, and Tootsie Brown(sister).

MARTHA AND HERBERT FOX

Martha and Herbert Fox first applied to the Rehabilitation of Privately Owned Homes program but because their home was located on the edge of a flood zone NAHASDA regulations prohibited Housing from rehabbing their home. Leaving their home place was not something they wanted to do. After non-federal funding was finally appropriated they were again scheduled to have their home rehabbed. That's when their roof began leaking resulting in the Fox family being placed on the emergency repair list

which meant they would get the most urgent repairs done more quickly and have the rest done when it was their turn on the program waiting list.

After the initial inspection, the home was found to have faulty wiring (some of the old wiring type had not been used since the 1930s), large section of the ceiling falling in, visible gaps in the wall, exposed water line, unstable



The leaking roof was only one of the many needed repairs that caused the old Fox home to be declared unfeasible for repair.

and rotting floor, and lead based paint, resulting in the home being declared not viable for repair.

Because the Fox family qualified for the Elderly Alternative Housing Program they were able to receive a new home within a matter of months instead of another possible extended wait. "I'm thankful for Creek nation and God's part in getting me a new home and that I have some time left to enjoy it, I will be writing a thank you letter to Creek Nation" said Martha.



Martha and Herbert Fox are presented their new home by Creek District Representative Roger Barnett.

Note: These recipients are only a few of the many Elderly Creek Citizens who have been served through the Alternative Housing Program. The program has completed twenty-five homes and has approval for a total of fifty-two.

THANK YOU LETTER TO HOUSING

The Hon. Chief A.D. Ellis

Sir:

I want to congratulate you on the fine staff of Creek Nation's Housing.
I had an emergency problem for a week & a half. (sewer blocked , not draining). My city said they could not help because it was on my side.
I called a plumber & he quoted me nearly \$2000.00. I'm 85 & widowed. My children said let's see if Creek Nation can help.
We called & they sent 2 gentlemen up & they had it open in less than an hour.
The men were
Dennis Bible
Monroe Burgess
They would not even accept a cold drink.
Many thanks again from me and my family and I'm blessed to be a member of Creek Nation.
God Bless,
Catherine Evans
Linda Way
Judy Gordon
Rita Lee
Also Kermitta, Lizanne & others were so kind & helpful.

Housing employee is a winner both on and off the job

Sarah Morgan recently won the State Women's Class A Horseshoe Championship held in Yukon, Oklahoma. Sarah works for the Housing Force Account and was also named Employee of the Month for June which is voted on by her coworkers. Housing congratulates Sarah on her achievements both on and off the job.



Contracting/Employment Opportunities

If you live in HUD assisted housing you may qualify as a section 3 resident or a section 3 business and may be eligible for contracting and/or employment opportunities. Please contact Mr. Alan Kelley at 918-752-3249 for more information.

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division/Authority is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact

Lenora McPerryman

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

Helping our
Tribal Citizens
Realize the
Dream of
Homeownership
Providing help through the
Mortgage Assistance Program

Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information
Contact:

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance
Program
is a program of the
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
DIVISION OF HOUSING

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

- Be a first time home buyer.
- Live within the state of Oklahoma.
- Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.

- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.

- Be 18 years or older.

- Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.

- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.

- Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

- Preference given to Creek Citizens.

Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

Bristow celebrates Western Heritage Days in August

BRISTOW — The Bristow Indian Community built a float for the parade and won 1st place. The theme of the float was “Bridging the Gap: Two Worlds-One Spirit”. National Council Representatives George Tiger and Roger Barnett, youth, senior citizens, and the Muscogee Nation Royalty were participants on the float.

Oklahoma City town hall meeting
OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma City town hall meeting is scheduled for Nov. 30 at 6 p.m. at Gloriaetta Baptist Church located at 7308 S. Western Street.

Everyone is encouraged to attend. For more information, contact Allen Yargee at (405)386-7111 or (405) 641-3318.

Muscogee Nation Transit system
OKLAHOMA CITY — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation transit system is available to all creek citizens.

For more information, contact Sherrie Hayens, dispatcher at (918) 759-7775; Christine Rogers, planner/supervisor at (918) 759-0645 or Ben Chaney, manager at (918) 752-3253.

A donation of one dollar is accepted and greatly appreciated.

Loca’pokv and Big Spring (Okmulgee) Tribal Towns annual reunion
TULSA — The annual Loca’pokv

and Big Spring Tribal Towns Reunion will take place Nov. 24 at the Perryman Ranch at 11524 South Elwood in Jenks.

Elwood is located one mile east of U.S. of Hwy. 75. The ranch is between Jenks and Glenpool.

A pot-luck dinner will be held at 2 p.m. The kitchen will open at 11 a.m. Members of both towns are welcome to come early or to stay until sunset.

If you need more information, or would like to volunteer to help, please write to the Loca’pokv/Big Spring Reunion c/o Rob Trepp, P.O. Box 9853, Tulsa, OK 4157-0853.

Food as Medicine Program

OKMULGEE — Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative, a project of Legacy Cultural Learning Community, Inc., will host a special program called, “Food as Medicine,” on Oct. 20 – 21. The focus of the program is on the health benefits of the indigenous foods of the Americas and how we can reconnect with these foods and get them back into our diets.

Oct. 20 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Muscogee Community Center, a reception and panel discussion about diabetes, wild foods, nutrition will be held. Corn experts will be on hand and plenty of time is reserved for questions and answers.

Activities on Oct. 20 will be held at the OSU Extension Exhibit Hall at the Okmulgee County Fairgrounds

from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. There will be workshops on topics such as heirloom seeds, natural beef production, traditional foods, diabetes and diet, home gardening, identification of wild foods, etc. A meal of Oklahoma grown foods will be served.

All activities are free and open to the public with pre-registration needed for dinner tickets.

Pre-register by calling Vicky Karhu at (9918) 756-7417 or Datan tiger at (918) 687-7006 or by e-mail to vkarhu@gmail or danatiger@hotmail.com.

The guest of honor at both locations will be Mr. Carl Barnes, Director and Founder of C.O.R.N.S., Inc., a living seen bank, with members and growers throughout the nation and in other countries. Barnes has been breeding, collecting, growing, preserving and distributing heirloom corn varieties for over 60 years. He maintains a literal seed library of over 500 varieties of corn, along with beans and other traditional crops. So keen is his understanding of corn, along with beans and other traditional corn that he has ‘wedded’ plants to bring back the traditional corn types previously used by many Native American tribes. Further, Barnes has given back traditional corn types previously used by many Native American tribes. Further, Barnes has given back traditional corn seed to numerous tribes after their own tribal corn had been lost.

The Mvskoke Food Sovereignty Initiative mission statement is as fol-

lows: Mvskoke food sovereignty initiative works to enable the mvskoke people and their neighbors to provide for their food and health needs now and in the future through sustainable agriculture, economic development, community involvement, cultural and educational programs.

Gouge Family Reunion

HENRYETTA — The Gouge family reunion will be held Oct. 28 at Tiger Mountain Ranch & Resort. Registration begin at 6 p.m.

Lots of activities, good food, singing, hayrides and a Halloween costume contest for all ages.

All relatives and friends invited. Those attending are asked to bring their favorite dish and a 12 pack of pop and tent. There will be a lot of camping space available.

For more information, contact Nancy Deere at (918) 756-4272.

Tiger Mountain Ranch & Resort is located seven miles east of Henryetta off of I-40. Take Tiger Mountain exit south and follow the signs.

Benefit Food & Fun Bingo

HOLDENVILLE — Benefit food bingo will be held on November 4 at 6 p.m. at the Holdenville Indian Community Building.

All proceeds will go to help with medical travel expenses for Elliott Barnett. All participation will be greatly appreciated.

Okmulgee YMCA Chili Chase

OKMULGEE — 5k walk/run – 1 mile fun walk/run will be on October 21, 2006.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Diabetes Program Health Heart Project will sponsor the first 25 American Indian individuals or families walkers/runners who register.

The Diabetes Program has sponsored 20 individual entries and five family entries. All individual participants will receive a “Chili Chase Run” T-shirt – Family entries receive two shirts, additional shirts are \$7.50. All participants will meet at the Okmulgee Family YMCA on Saturday, October 21, 2006. Registration begins at 8:00 am and the run/walk begins at 9 a.m..

To use the entry fees provide by the Diabetes Program, call Irene Culley at 1 (918) 636-8735 or Scott Robison at 1 (918) 695-1325. They will fill out participant entry forms and register the participant.

Council Oak planning meeting

TULSA — The Tulsa Indian Community Center will be holding a council oak planning meeting on October 16 at 6 :30 p.m.

The center is locate at 8611 S. Union. Volunteers needed. Free setup for Native American vendors.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Van Driver-Twin Hills-ENP (Part-time)

The purpose of this position is to serve as an outreach representative of the Elderly Nutrition Program by delivering meals and providing support services to home bound elderly tribal members. This involves a significant amount of travel within the service are of the designated Community Center.

Chief Operating Officer (C.O.O.)

The purpose of this position is to serve as the CEO of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MNHS) with responsibility for planning, directing and evaluating a comprehensive health care program consisting of preventive, curative, and community health services. The CEO shall have overall administrative responsibility for directing the development, implementation, operation and evaluation of the inpatient/outpatient curative services and community preventative health services within the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. The incumbent reports to the Health Systems Board of Directors. **Position: Clinician - Behavioral Health Services**

The purpose of the position is to provide services in Counseling and as a Human Services Professional for Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Program. Incumbent provides services in the Eufaula and Okmulgee BHS offices. **Position: Chief Operating Officer (C.O.O.)**

The purpose of this position is to serve as the COO of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MNHS) with administrative responsibility for planning, directing, and evaluating a comprehensive health care program consisting of preventative, curative and community health services. Position shall have overall responsibility for directing the development, implementation, operation and evaluation of the inpatient/outpatient curative services and community preventative health services within the jurisdiction of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as the acting CEO with full delegated authority in the absence of the CEO. **Position: Ultrasound Technician - CNCH**

The purpose of the position is to provide consistent patient services using Ultrasound Imaging Modality. Perform Ultrasound procedures and apply principles of safe ultrasound technique. Incumbent will aid the Radiologist in performing specific ultrasound examinations as described in the Radiology Department Policies and Procedures. **Position: I.T. Site Manager - Coweta**

The purpose of the position is to provide Computer Systems support for the Coweta Indian Health Clinic. Incumbent will be responsible for the in-

stalling and upgrading computer systems as designated and providing assistance and guidance in the technical and usage areas of computer operations throughout the Clinic. Day-to-day supervision and administrative support is provided by the Health System Administrator. IT support, guidance and direction will be provided by the Information Resources Officer. **Position: Diabetes Clinical Educator/Coordinator - Okemah**

The purpose of the position is to provide and coordinate diabetes education and coordinate diabetes care services provided through the Diabetes Program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MNHS). Incumbent will provide foot care and serve as an educational resource in proper foot care and treatment for persons with diabetes.

Physician

The purpose of this position is to provide health care to the designated population of the Muscogee Creek Nation Health System (MNHS) in accordance with the health system guidelines, policies and procedures. Delivery of services are provided in accordance with IHS guidelines, JCAHO standards, State and Federal guidelines and standards and accepted standards of practice as set forth by the American Medical Association or American Osteopathic Association. Incumbent reports to the CMO. Administrative support and supervision is provided by the HSA.

Position: Medical Technologist Supervisor - Coweta

The purpose of the position is to provide supervisory support to the Laboratory and to be responsible for the administrative duties of the Laboratory as well as other duties required of a Medical Technologist to aid in the diagnosis and treatment of disease by performing complex analyses requiring the exercise of independent judgment, correlation of test results and interpretation of findings with respect to normal values.

Health System Administrator - Sapulpa

The purpose of this position is to manage and direct the Sapulpa Indian Health Clinic located in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. The Sapulpa Clinic provides inpatient, outpatient emergency and general medical and dental services to the eligible Native Americans. The incumbent is responsible for day-to-day management, planning and organizing of health care delivery to eligible Native American citizens within designated service area. This is an exempt position as applicable to the provisions of the FLSA. The MNHS provides comprehensive health care services to Native Americans living within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Community Hospital (CNCH) and five (5) ambulatory health centers in Coweta, Eufaula, Okemah, Okmulgee, Sapulpa. The Health System also maintains six

(6) Field Health operations consisting of the Community Health Representative (CHR); the Elderly Nutrition (ENP); and the Women’s, Infants and Children (WIC) Programs; the Tobacco Prevention Program; the Reintegration Program; and the Diabetes Prevention Programs.

Nutrition Coordinator - WIC

The purpose of the position is to provide nutrition services for Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). This position is responsible for the overall development and management of the nutrition education component of the program to ensure compliance with state goals and federal regulations, and ensure quality nutrition services are provided to the clientele served.

Case Manager - Diabetes Program - Lackey Hall

The purpose of the position is to provide case management to patients meeting the Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) Prevention Grant criterion. Incumbent monitors patient progress and coordinate clinic and community resources to assist patients in reaching cardiovascular disease prevention targets.

Billing Technician (Accounts Receivable)

The purpose of the position is to ensure that all billable health services are billed and that payments from patients and third-party payers are recorded to the correct accounts receivable account supported by the appropriate documentation for cash control and revenue recognition.

Billing Technician - Lackey Hall

The purpose of the position is to ensure that all billable health services are billed and that payments from patients and third-party payers are recorded to the correct accounts receivable account supported by the appropriate documentation for cash control and revenue recognition. Incumbent is under the direct supervision of the Business Services Director.

Physical Therapist Assistant - Coweta

The purpose of this position is to plan, develop, direct and coordinate physical therapy activities for inpatient and ambulatory care patients within the designated service area of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System. This position is located at the Coweta Indian Clinic located in Coweta, OK. Incumbent is under direct supervision of the Clinical Director.

Diabetes Educator/Coordinator - Coweta

The purpose of the position is to provide and coordinate diabetes education and coordinate diabetes care services provided through the Diabetes Program of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation-Division of Health Administration (MCN-DHA). Incumbent will provide foot care and serve as an educational resource in proper foot care and treatment for persons with diabetes.

Management Analyst - Lackey Hall

The purpose of this position is to provide a developmental position for a recent college graduate, who is a tribal citizen, to learn about the Muscogee Health System and the health care environment in general.

Radiology Tech-Mammography-CNCH

The purpose of the position is to perform mammographic examinations according to current standards of care and also perform certain routine radiological examinations as described in the Radiology Department Policies and Procedures. Incumbent is under the direct supervision of the Radiology Technologist Supervisor.

4TH ANNUAL WARRIORS' SHOWCASE SHOOTOUT

sponsored by

4 Love of the Game



Nov. 24 - 25, 2006

Henryetta Gymnasiums

Deadline Nov. 15 by 5 p.m.

Late Entry (add \$20) Nov. 19 by 5 p.m.

8-player Roster

Birth Certificate & CDIB required

All teams must be community based

Special Events: Free-Throw, 3-Point, Knockout, X-Box competition, & East/West All-Star Game

AGE DIVISIONS

5 & 6 Co-Ed *\$50 - 7 & 8 *\$60

9 & 10 *\$70 - 11 & 12 *\$80 - 13 & 14 *\$90

*Plus \$10 Wal-Mart gift card

For more info visit: www.4loveofthegame.org

David Pascale at (918) 752-5714

BJ Waggner at (918) 289-9211

Lucas Taylor at (918) 650-3920



Johnson-O’Malley Program In-Service Training

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee Creek Nation JOM Program held its first in-service training for the 2006-2007 school year with a record attendance of superintendents, program coordinators, parent committee members and program staff. For the first time in the history of the JOM program in-service trainings, all 46 school districts were represented with over 170 participants registered for the event.

The highlight of the event was the awarding of the two exemplary JOM school programs that were selected to be honored at the Statewide JOM Conference in March 2007. Our honored schools this year are, Weleetka and Kiefer Public Schools. Making the presentation was Chief A.D. Ellis, Executive Director Claude Sumner, Chief of Staff Mike Flud, National Council Representative Tony Notaro and Human Development Director Dr. Pete Coser.

Chief Ellis gave an informational greeting to the participants in regards to the commitment Creek Nation has to the JOM programs. Chief Ellis explained the importance of working with Congress to insure the national funding. He also assured the school districts that Creek Nation places education as a priority and that his office and the National Council are working not only to maintain the national JOM funding but to have it increased. Chief

Ellis also pointed out that the Muscogee (Creek) Nation has been actively involved with the National JOM Association in advocating in Congress for a funding level of \$24 million.

Representative Notaro also gave an encouraging greeting and spoke of the commitment from the Nation Council for the JOM Program. He explained that the National Council has made a commitment to maintain a high quality education for the Creek Nation JOM programs. The National Council has subsidized the funding source for the JOM programs in order to fulfill that commitment.

The JOM Program in-service provides technical training, parent committee training and an opportunity for the programs to network with each other and learn about the different services and programs available through Creek Nation. Presentations were given by Richard Hicks with the Tribal Youth Program, Marcus Proctor with Tobacco Prevention and Rick Clovis with the 4H Program. There was also a special presentation was made by the American Indian Graduate Center on behalf of the Gates Millennium Scholarship.

There will be a special JOM Parent Committee training, “Parents Night Out” on October 17, 2006 at Green Country in Okmulgee. For more information please contact, David Gash at (918) 732-7841.

COLLEGENEWS

Haskell Indian Nations University Update

by Nathan Anderson

LAWRENCE, KS. — The deadline for Haskell’s spring enrollment is November 15. Another proposal has been submitted to the National Council to fund another year of online education for our members, please encourage others to voice their concerns regarding NCA 05-133. Unless submitted and approved by National Council, this bill will not be funded and this program will not be offered in the spring to our members.

We have had great success in our previous semesters with the Muscogee students and welcome those students back, however, the funding previously was covered by the MCN and that allowed for books and online fees to be paid for the respective students. We all agree that education is important, however, seeking the much needed funding for those that can’t leave home to attend a university or afford it, is equally important. We are also considering another location, possibly the Okmulgee or Muskogee area where our members could attend courses as well via the internet. Please speak with your National Council representatives and voice your concerns for NCA 05-133,

For more information, contact Nathan Anderson, Department of Interior/Bureau of Indian Affairs/Haskell Indian Nations University at (785) 832-6679, n-anderson@haskell.edu.

Bacone Fall Scholarship Powwow

MUSKOGEE — On Saturday Oct. 28 2006 Bacone college will be holding their Fall Scholarship Powwow. The powwow will be held at the Palmer Center Gym, 2299 Old Bacone Road, Muskogee, OK, from 2 p.m. to midnight.

The Master of Ceremonies will be Sammy “Toni Kei” White. George “Cricket” Shields is the Head Man Dancer. The Head Lady Dancer will be Casey Tsoodle. The Arena Director for the powwow is Kevin Connywerdy. Special invited guests- to the powwow is the Kiowa Gourd Clan

For more information contact Kyle Taylor at (918)360-1086 or e-mail taylork@bacone.edu. Art and Crafts space available- call (918) 687-3299.

College of the Muscogee Nation

OKMULGEE — The College of the Muscogee Nation is more than a doorway to a degree; it is the gateway to a higher education emphasizing native culture, values, language and self-determination of an entire people. That is the vision of Ramona Mason, Chair of Board Regents for the new college, one of 37 tribal colleges in development around the country. “Our main priority is to provide an educational environment that encourages intellectual curiosity, self determination, ethnic pride and appreciation for cultural diversity,” said Mason.

The partnership between OSU-Okmulgee and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation began in 2004 and by the fall of 2005, studies got underway in newly refurbished classrooms on the university campus. “The key to establishing a successful tribal college is having Native American faculty and tribal-related courses,” says OSU-Okmulgee President Dr. Bob Klabenes. Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Judge Patrick Moore teaches history classes and Supreme Court Justice Amos McNac teaches Creek Language classes.

“The tribe will be seeking accreditation for the three associate degree programs it’s offering initially,” says Interim college president, Dr. Pete Coser, an OSU faculty for 20 years. Degree programs are Gaming, Tribal Services and Native American Studies. Areas of specialization include Human Services, Administration, Muscogee language and Muscogee Studies.

“The Muscogee (Creek) Nation and OSU-Okmulgee have a long history of working together on many successful projects,” Dr. Coser adds. “We think the College of the Muscogee Nation has the potential to be one of our greatest achievements.”

Professional Internship Program

LAKE BUENA VISTA, FL — Interns develop new skills in their area of expertise and enhance their communication and guest service abilities while working for one of the most recognized and respected companies in the world, DISNEY! Epcot is the Discovery Park at the Walt Disney World Resort. The Epcot Science Team is responsible for the greenhouses, labs and aquaculture facility of The Land, the agriculture pavilion at Epcot.



The Epcot Science Professional Internship Program is designed to provide qualified college students with the opportunity to work in the unique growing areas that are part of the Living with The Land boat ride attraction at Epcot. Become a part of the team that brings the excitement of agricultural sciences to millions of Epcot Guests each year!

Responsibilities: Interns work 30-40 hours/week with some overtime possible. They spend up to 25% of their time leading informative, interactive guest tours through greenhouses and labs, and helping to promote and sell the tours. Interns participate in training sessions, classes, and meetings as scheduled. Other duties vary by discipline:

Aquaculture Operate and maintain a recirculating freshwater facility: monitor filtration systems and water quality, assist in diagnosis and control of disease, and raise fish to marketable size for Epcot restaurants;

Biotechnology (Plant Tissue Culture) Prepare media, tissue culture a wide variety of plants, clean glassware, and collect, package, and deliver tissue-cultured plants to Epcot merchandise locations;

Entomology Rear and maintain insect colonies, release beneficial insects and predator mites into greenhouse crops, assist with research in biological control and greenhouse IPM programs, and maintain entomology-related shows; and

Plant Science Maintain a high-quality show of hydroponically-grown food crops from around

HIGHER EDUCATION POST GRADUATION PROGRAM

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Program announces the recent NCA 01-113 legislation passed by the National Council for establishment of the Creek Nation of Oklahoma Post Graduate Program and the availability of funds for graduate assistance for members of the Creek Tribe to further their education beyond a bachelor’s degree for a first time graduate degree.

PURPOSE: The Post Graduate Program is established to provide financial aid opportunities for Creek students to obtain Master’s, Doctoral, and Professional level degrees.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

1. Be an enrolled member of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with a Bachelor’s degree.
2. Be pursuing a first time master’s or doctorate degree as a full-time/part-time graduate student at an accredited graduate school in the U. S.
3. Contact the Higher Education office for an application.
4. If not already attending graduate school, apply to the graduate program of your choice.
5. Required documents are: original application,

copy of Creek tribal citizenship card, signed privacy statement, photo, education plan, copy of transcript showing bachelor’s degree earned, and a letter of acceptance to the university graduate program.

REVIEW PROCESS: The Post Graduate Program operates as a part of the Human Development Division to be administered by the Higher Education Program. Applications will be reviewed to determine program compliance and eligibility of award.

AWARD PROCESS: In-state applicants have priority, out of state applicants will be considered upon availability of funds. Awards will be mailed to the Students.

AMOUNT OF AWARDS: \$2000 per Semester for full time/\$ 1000 for part time. Funding will be twice per academic year. Limited to two years (four semesters/quarters) for Masters; Limited to three years (six semesters/ quarters) for Doctoral candidates. The closing date for Fall 2006 Semester is Oct. 15, 2006

Tribal and Indigenous Early Childhood Network

ATLANTA, GA — At the National Association on the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) Annual Conference on November 8-11, 2006.

We are inviting all Tribal and Indigenous Leaders, Early Childhood Professional, Paraprofessionals including Parents of Indian, Hawaiian and Alaskan Natives children to attend this year’s conference as we will launch our NEW network as part of the NAEYC Interest Forum.

JOIN US AT THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

Annual Conference: November 8-11, 2006 @ Georgia World Congress Center

Festival of Organization: November 9, 2006 @ Georgia World Congress Center from 4:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. (Come by our booth) Door Prizes!!!!

Celebration of Diversity Reception: November 9, 2006 @ Georgia World Congress Center From 8:30 p.m. -10 p.m. (Come support the launch of our NEW Network)

INTEREST FORUM: November 10, 2006 @ Georgia World Congress Center

From 5:30 p.m. -7 p.m. (This is the Highlight event and we would like as many of our Native and Indigenous friends to come and take part of our very first forum). Tribal and Indigenous leaders are encouraged to attend this session. Check your program for updated room # and time.

Coordinators: Alvino Sandoval, Dr. Cathy Gutierrez-Gomez, and Gail Goldstein

For more information on our network, e-mail: TribalECHNetwork@hotmail.com, e-mail us to let us know if you are bringing a Tribal or Indigenous Leader so they can be recognized!

Register now to attend the NAWYC annual conference at <http://www.annualconference.naeyc.org/> or visit NAEYC online at <http://www.naeyc.org>. We hope to see you there this year.

ACT preparation course slated at Schusterman Center

NORMAN — High school students studying for the ACT exam can get practical, time-tested advice through a one-day preparation course presented by the University of Oklahoma Outreach.

Pre collegiate Programs, a unit within Outreach, is providing the ACT preparation course, which will explore all sections of the exam, including mathematics, English grammar and usage, reading comprehension and scientific reasoning. Students find that they can improve their scores on the ACT by taking the preparatory course. The course will provide an overview of the testing procedures, suggest strategies that are particular to the types of questions contained in each of the ACT tests and motivate the student to do well on the ACT Assessment.

The review is scheduled for Saturday, September 30 and runs from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The review will take place at the OU-Tulsa Schusterman Center, 4502 East 41st. The next opportunity to take the ACT preparation in Tulsa is scheduled for January 27, 2007.

Conducting the classes will be Lynne Chesley, Norman High School principal; David

Askey, instructor at Norman High School; and Robert Newman, assistant principal at Chickasha High School.

“We review English, math, and science while integrating test-taking strategies. We also try to help students become familiar with the test

content and format, and we give them a practice test,” Chesley said. Chesley knows of at least one student who said the course helped him raise his ACT score by 10 points. While not all students will raise their scores by that amount, Chesley said that dedicated students would benefit from

taking the class: “Almost every student who has the motivation and self-discipline to practice the strategies we teach in these courses will improve their scores,” Chesley said.

The \$100 registration fee includes instruction, materials, and refreshments, and participants may register online. Students are responsible for their own lunch. For enrollment, more information, or to arrange accommodations on the basis of disability, please contact Pre collegiate Programs at (405) 325-6897 or visit the Web site: <http://youth.ou.edu>.





Rev. Jimmy Anderson honored for 50 years of service



Creek girl works for NBA's Orlando Magic



Section B, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

October 2006

Native American History Series: Biological & Ethnic Warfare

by Judge Patrick E. Moore

"King Phillip's War" 1675 to 1676 was fought because the Wampanoag and Narragansett Nations suspected British traders of contaminating their villages with smallpox on purpose in order to take over their towns and cultivated fields.



Moore

France and Great Britain waged a continuing war from late in the seventeenth century and throughout the eighteenth century over which one of these European powers would control the riches of North America.

There were four so called "French and Indian" wars, called such because of numerous Indian Nations fighting on the side of France. These "French and Indian" wars resulted in a drastic reduction of North America's Native American population. Never before had the people of North America been exposed to rifle and cannon on the field of battle. Native American people suffered severe losses in both people and assets during those two centuries. Native American populations had not completely recovered by the nineteenth century assault on their sovereignty and lands by greedy states assisted by a fledgling United States.

The last of the "French and Indian" wars came to an end in 1763 and it was during this conflict that the first written accounts of biological warfare were recorded for posterity.

Biological warfare was used in the field by British Commanders during the early 1760's against the Algonkian Confederacy led by their great General Chief Pontiac. The Algonkian Confederacy was fighting on the side of France when the Commander of the British army came up with a despicable battle tactic.

Sir Jeffery Amherst, the British

General, sent a letter to one of his subordinates a man named Bouquet suggesting the Algonkian Confederacy be exposed to the deadly disease smallpox. Bouquet by return mail wrote "I will try to contaminate them with some blankets that may fall into their hands and take care not to get the disease myself."

Sir Jeffery Amherst's reply contained the following passage, "You will do well to infect the Indians by means of blankets as well as try every other method that can serve to extirpate this execrable race."

Captain Ecuyer, a British officer under Bouquet's command, made the following entry in his Journal on June 24, 1763, "We gave them two blankets and a handkerchief out of the smallpox hospital. I hope it will have the desired effect."

Captain Ecuyer's report was one of the greatest understatements ever written by any soldier in any war before or since, for within three months smallpox spread through the Algonkian Confederacy like a prairie fire. Smallpox almost entirely wiped out the entire populations of the Mingo, Delaware, and Shawnee Nations plus other Native Americans residing in the Ohio River Valley. The epidemic killed over 100,000 indigenous people.

The United States continued the use of biological warfare tactics after the American Revolution. The United States Army dispensed blankets, gathered from the St. Louis Military Infirmary a smallpox infirmary where United States soldiers were held in quarantine, to Indians trading at Fort Clark on the Missouri River.

When Mandan Indians, living around Fort Clark, began to show signs of smallpox United States Army doctors ordered them to leave the area around Ft. Clark and go out onto the Great Plains to escape the disease, when in fact the object was spread the dreaded smallpox far and wide.

The result of this one biological escapade by the United States was the loss of at least 125,000 Native Americans who were living on the Great Plains, but that was not the end for this planned exposure for smallpox spread even further south and west and before the disease had run its course 300,000 to

400,000 plains and southwestern Native Americans had perished.

Soon the United States government began the policy of removal of all Native Americans east of the Mississippi River in order that land in the east would be available for non-Indian settlers. The resulting militarily enforced 1,000 mile marches, sometimes at the point of bayonets, without food, medical attention or shelter resulted in the Creek and Seminole Nations losing up to one-half of their entire populations. The Cherokee Nation lost 55% of its citizens on the infamous "Trail of Tears." Foreign newspapers reported these atrocities and several contemporary scholars wrote articles and books concerning treatment of these indigenous peoples by the United States. One United States soldier, who had served under General Andrew Jackson at Horseshoe Bend, later reflected on this death march, said "I have never witnessed such treatment to human beings by a so called civilized government - Had I known at Horseshoe Bend what I witnessed on the Trail of Tears I would have shot General Jackson in the field."

After the War between the States, Muscogee soldiers who had served in the Union Army at Forts in Kansas were delayed in their return Indian Territory at the conclusion of hostilities. Reflected in one officers Journal was language to the effect - politicians want these Creeks to stay in Kansas without provisions and medicine - when they are gone they will have no need for their lands in Indian Territory and the government can then remove Kansas Indians to reservations in Indian Territory, thus freeing Kansas land for "Free Soilers" (a political group who supported Abraham Lincoln for President) settlement.

During the 1930's and 1940's a European, who had studied the United States Indian Removal Policy of the 1800's, relied on these models when formulating and implementing his Lebensraumpolitik (the politics of living space), his name Adolf Hitler.

During the 1990's, when questioned about ethnic cleansing, Slobodan Milosovic replied to the United States peace negotiators - You criticize me - What about your President Andrew Jackson and the Five Civilized Tribes?

13th Annual Trail of Tears Commemorative Motorcycle Ride

OKMULGEE - On September 18, all the motorcycle riders received a "Warm Mvskoke Welcome" with several hundred people greeting them as they rode into the square at the Creek Council House Museum. The Okmulgee Chamber of Commerce donated cold water served by volunteers from the community. Students from Okmulgee elementary schools drew welcome posters that decorated the fence and grounds around the museum. The Okmulgee Main Street donated goody bags for all of the guests. Community and tribal officials welcomed the riders and the Muscogee scholarship recipients made an emotional thank you to the Ride. Tallahassee Wvokaye led a

Tennessee decided that they wanted to do something to honor the memory of the people who were sent away on the Trail of Tears. The idea for an annual commemorative motorcycle ride was born. Bill Cason and seven other riders began to research the removal and plan

tember was chosen as the date for the annual ride.

The first Ride involved approximately 100 bikes. The riders went to the riverside in Waterloo and said a prayer and then returned to their homes. Word spread about "Riding to Remember"



The riders are arriving in downtown Okmulgee.

the Ride. They wanted to depart from Ross's Landing in Chattanooga, Tennessee a well-known landing, stockade and departure site where thousands of Cherokee and several hundred Muscogee people were rounded up, detained and then loaded on boats or marched overland to begin the long trip West.

The Cherokee removal routes are well researched and it was learned that one of them closely followed the modern day US Hwy. 72. The Ride was planned for 210 miles along this highway from Chattanooga, Tennessee to Waterloo, Alabama and the third Saturday in Sep-

tember was chosen as the date for the annual ride. The first Ride involved approximately 100 bikes. The riders went to the riverside in Waterloo and said a prayer and then returned to their homes. Word spread about "Riding to Remember" and each year saw more and more riders join in. Now it's the largest organized ride in the world with over 160,000 bikes in 2005, stretching for 65 miles through the Tennessee and Alabama countryside. As the numbers grew the leadership of the Ride began selling T-shirts, patches and pins to the bikers and put the profits toward a scholarship fund for Native American students to go to college. Now they are sponsoring eleven scholarships in the East. In 2006 the first scholarship for a school in Oklahoma was made available to the College of the Muscogee Nation and has been awarded to three Muscogee students.

Since 2000 a group of 200 to 300 Riders have been coming all the way to Oklahoma just as the Native peoples removed in the 1830's had to do. In 2005 they came to the Muscogee Nation for the first time and felt so well welcomed that they decided to return in 2006. In January 2007 the decision to come back will be made.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

ALBUQUERQUE - Last week I went for a walk along the ditch here in northwest Albuquerque. It was bare. It had been shaved of the mile high weeds and flowers lining it throughout the summer. There was a lull in the water flow so the bottom was now only mud and occasional pools of water. In a few spots crayfish were looking for soft muck. Green heads of frogs emerged here and there. Some frogs took the opportunity to sunbathe. They dove in alarm at the sound of humans or dogs. One wise frog was not so skittish. He sat out on a concrete abutment, taking in the day. I sat with him for a while to see what I could learn. Frogs are rare these days; poisons and pesticides have taken many out. This wise frog and his relatives were the most I'd seen in one place in years. Neither of us said anything as we watched the blue fall sky sweep by, and the scrambling crayfish. At the back of my mind was the stack of papers on my desk, the errands, terrorist attacks by our government, and concern for my brother and his heart. The tightness of fast society slowly unwound. When the wise frog did finally talk he noted that humans used to come and visit. And they would visit in turn. We both sat with remembering as another stream of blue passed with thoughts of clouds. We felt sad at the current state of loss in this world of progress. Somewhere along the way humans got confused and lost the way. Some still remember, I told the frog. I look for those who remember everywhere I travel. He nodded. Some of his people had forgotten too. Time pulled us both apart. We had to get on with it. We made plans to get together again. We thanked each other for the visit. When I looked back he was still there, encouraging that crayfish towards a muddy cove.

In the news this month was a story about scientists who are looking for a cure for gay sheep, or rams. They are experimenting with giving the rams extra high doses of estrogen to see if that will counter the tendency for their own kind. Sounds funny to me: the scientists, not the rams. This study probably cost more than a block of new homes for the elderly. Why not come up with a cure for hatred and judgment? We'd all get along a

lot better if we'd respect each other. The wise ones don't judge people by the color of their skin, by accumulation of wealth, or by inborn traits. It's how we treat each other (human, frog, etc), and how we take care of our many gifts, that matters. I wonder what Mekko Frog would say about this? He's probably laughing about those poor rams prancing about on high doses of estrogen, in the name of science.



Harjo

In the latest World Literature Today, published in Norman, Oklahoma, the cellist Yo-Yo Ma said something in an interview with Michelle Johnson when talking about The Silk Road that sparked me thinking about growth of our Mvskoke culture: "Years ago in Japan, a wise man told me that if you look deeply enough at anything thought of as local--be it music, an idea, a tradition, a craft--you find that the local thing has global roots. We think of ancient people as being so isolated, yet here is this trade route along which religions and music and musical instruments and foods and goods all traveled. Of course, people traveled with them, and the people and the goods and the ideas and everything else all had enormous influence on one another."

I think of the Mississippi River, the Gulf coast, the Atlantic and the Caribbean, as part of the network of Muscogee trade routes. Now these routes have been expanded by air flight. I consider what has come to be known as Muscogee culture. Our culture contains many threads leading all over the world. Every day when I practice my sax I say a Mvto to Adolfe Sax. He was born in Belgium, spent most of his life in Paris where he gave himself over to promoting his family of saxophones. He was vilified and booed by jealous competitors for inventing the saxophone. The sax eventually made it across the Atlantic, found a place in jazz and American music. It's one of the favorite instruments of Creek people. Jim Pepper is still the reigning jazz sax king. I remember Thomas Berryhill. I'd love to hear of others. Even my paternal grandmother Naomi Harjo played sax in Indian Territory. One of these days it might be considered a Mvskoke traditional instrument. That's how these things happen. You never know.

Cultural Day

OKMULGEE - The Office of Child Care is sponsoring a Cultural Day for all ages on October 13 beginning at 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. on the south side of the Mound. Concession will be available. All events are free.

Event and activities include: Stickball; Stompdance; Creek Hymn Singing; Flute making; Finger weaving and many more.

For more information, call Newman Frank at (918) 732-7680 or (800) 205-3705.

Native American Research Seminar

MUSKOGEE - A Native American Research Seminar will be held October 21 from 2 until 4 p.m. at the Muskogee Public Library, located at 801 W. Okmulgee.

A presentation by Treasa Golden Wolf on "Researching your Family Tree-Steps to Citizenship" will be discussed.

For more information, call the library at (918) 682-6657.

Koweta Fall Powwow

COWETA - The Koweta Fall Powwow will be held November 18 at the First United Methodist Church, located at 206 W. Sycamore.

The gourd dance will begin at 2 p.m., supper will start at 5 p.m. and the War Dance begins at 6 p.m.

The head staff includes: emcee, Archie Mason; head gourd dancer, Luther "Bunny" Factor; head man, Karl Beaton; head lady, Patty Beaton; head singer, Jeremy Barnett and arena directors, Dewayne Cahwee and Rick Tucker.

For more information, contact Martha Squire at (918) 486-4944.

Ribbons the Clown visits with children

YEAGER - The Creek Nation Head Start, Yeager Center, children were visited on September 6 by Ribbons the Clown.

She entertained the children with tricks and games during the weekly theme "feelings."

The children actively participated in songs, tricks, and movements.

The children expressed happy feelings and laughter while watching balloons turn into animals.



Ribbons the Clown

Senior Services Update

by Jackson Barnett, Manager

Report on Senior Citizens trip to the American Indian Elders Conference in Oklahoma City.

The group totaling 14 seniors departed Creek Nation at 8 a.m., Wednesday, September 6. We were headed for Oklahoma City to attend the Annual American Indian Elders Conference.

There were a number of break-out sessions dealing with issues that might be of interest to Indian Elders. We were free to select the ones we wanted to attend. There were two sessions in the mornings and two in the afternoon. A few door prizes were given out in each session. I lucked out and won a conference theme poster in one and a full massage in another. The only thing about that is I have to make an appointment and go to Oklahoma City. I guess I'll have to do without.

An honor banquet and ceremo-

ny was held Thursday night to recognize some elders in the Indian Communities. Three Mvskoke Elders were honored for their work and contributions in their respective tribes. Those honored with a very nice glass plaque were Rebecca Lindsey, for her work around the Cromwell area. The second was Millie Colbert, who works for the Creek Nation Language Program. The third was Jackson Barnett, Creek Nation Senior Services Program Manager. Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, who make the selections, was also present.



Pictured (l to r): Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, Millie Colbert, Jackson Barnett, Senior Services Manager and Rebecca Lindsey.

The conference was well attended and the information presented was very useful to many of us. The Mvskoke Seniors who make the trip were happy to have gone.

All for now until next time.

Tulsa hosts 30th Annual NICOA Conference

by Ruth Bible

TULSA — The National Indian Council On Aging, Inc. (NICOA) held their 30th annual conference on September 16-19 at the Tulsa Convention Center.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis was a keynote speaker along with Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chad Smith, Osage Nation Chief Jim Gray, Oklahoma Representative Dan Boren, Franks Burns Deputy Assistance Secretary Administration on Aging, Barbara Kennedy, President and CEO National Committee to preserve Social Security and Medicare and Robyn Golden Chair of American Society on Aging, James De La Cruz NICOA Chairman, Oklahoma Indian Council on Aging (OICOA) Area Chairman and Steve Wilson, MCN Program Manager of Elderly Nutrition. Wilson introduced Reverend Jimmy Alexander who gave invocation (Wilson and Alexander both are Muscogee Creek Citizens). Chief Ellis proudly introduced Muscogee Creek Original Allottee Martha Berryhill whom celebrated her 107th birthday on July 12.

The American Indian Chamber

of Commerce of Oklahoma hosted a Pow-Wow for the attendee of the annual conference on Saturday evening.

Other Tribal dignitaries in attendance on Sunday included Chickasaw Nation Lt. Governor Jefferson Keel.

Monday's speakers included Choctaw

Nation Principal Chief Gregory Pyle, Dr. Charles Grim, Director of Indian Health Services.

Tuesday's speakers were Dr. Bill Thomas Founder of the Eden Initiative and AARP Visiting Scholar, Sandy Markwood, CEO National Association of Area Agencies on Aging.

NICOA was founded in 1976 by members of the National Tribal Chairmen's Association that called for a national organization to advocate for improved, comprehensive health and social services to American Indian and Alaska Native Elders. In addition to providing service through several grants from agencies within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, NICOA operates as a National Sponsor of the federal Senior Community Service Employment program

(SCSEP) in 15 states through a grant from the Department of Labor. After nearly 30 years, the organization continues to provide service as the nation's foremost advocate for American Indians and Alaska Native Elders. NICOA is governed by a 13-member board of directors composed of American Indian and Alaska Native Elders representing each of the 12 Bureau of Indian Affairs regions, and a representative of the National Association of Title VI Grantees. NICOA voting membership consists of American Indian/Alaska Native Elders age 55 and over. Non-voting associate members include Indians under the age of 55 and non-Indians of all ages.

For more information, visit their website: www.nicoa.org.



The 30th Annual National Indian Conference on Aging attendees listen to the many speakers.



Martha Berryhill and daughter, Ruby, stop and pose for a picture.

Medicare releases data on 2007 Drug Plan Options

Seniors who are satisfied with their current Medicare prescription drug coverage will not have to take any action when the Medicare Open Enrollment period begins November 15th, but those who wish to make a change will find new options with lower costs and more comprehensive coverage available for 2007. They will also find new tools from Medicare to help them make a choice. Surveys consistently show over 80 percent of Medicare beneficiaries are satisfied with their current coverage and drug plans. As a result of the Medicare prescription drug benefit, more than 38 million seniors and people with disabilities now have some form of drug coverage.

The monthly premium beneficiaries will pay in 2007 will average \$24 if they stay in their current plan -- about the same as in 2006. While some people will see an increase in their current plan premiums, they have the option to switch plans. Nationally, 83 percent of beneficiaries will have access to plans with premiums lower than they are paying this year, and beneficiaries will also have access to plans with premiums of less than \$20 a month.

Beneficiaries will have more plan options that offer enhanced coverage, including zero deductibles and coverage in the gap for both generics and preferred brand name drugs. Plans are adding drugs to their formularies. Nationwide the average number of drugs included on a plan formulary will increase by approximately 13 percent, and plans will also use utilization management tools at a lower rate.

"The Medicare prescription drug benefit, passed by Congress and signed into law by the President, is saving seniors an average of \$1,200 a year, and it just keeps getting better," HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt said. "In 2007, there will be more plans with coverage in the gap, more drugs covered, and more help from Medicare in choosing the plan that's best for you."

During the 2007 bidding process, strong competitive pressure resulted in bids (costs of coverage) that average 10 percent less than in 2006. According to guidance from the Centers for Medicare

& Medicaid Services (CMS), each drug plan or health plan needed to show meaningful variation in their plan choices, including only two basic coverage options per region. CMS also encouraged plans to offer a third option only if it included enhanced benefits, such as providing coverage in the coverage gap ("donut hole") or covering excluded drugs.

"With next year's drug coverage, we want to build on the high level of beneficiary satisfaction in 2006 by strengthening the drug benefit in key ways," said CMS Administrator Mark B. McClellan, M.D., Ph.D. "As a result of robust competition and smart choices by seniors, plans are adding drugs, removing options that were not popular, and providing more options with enhanced coverage."

"If you're satisfied with your coverage, you do not have to do anything during the Open Enrollment period. If you are considering a change, Medicare has new tools to help," Dr. McClellan said.

Across the country, nearly all beneficiaries enrolled in Medicare prescription drug plans will be able to remain in the plan in which they enrolled for 2006 since almost all Part D sponsors are either continuing their current plans in 2007 or streamlining and consolidating their 2006 plans. They will be able to choose from plans that offer enhanced benefits or services, such as coverage in the gap and little or no deductible. Beneficiaries will have a wide range of plans that have zero deductibles, some of which also offer other enhanced benefits. There are also options that cover generics and preferred brand name drugs through the coverage gap for as low as \$38.70, and generally for under \$50.

Beneficiaries with limited incomes who qualify for the extra help will have a range of options available for comprehensive coverage. Beneficiaries who qualify for the full Medicare subsidy will pay no premiums or deductibles in these plans. Nationally, over 95 percent of low income beneficiaries will not need to change plans to continue to receive this coverage for a zero premium.

There are eight new national organizations offering drug plans to ben-

eficiaries, in addition to the nine national organizations that were available in 2006. The list of national plans can be found at www.medicare.gov/medicarerereform/local-plans-2007.asp.

In general, beneficiaries will also have greater access to Medicare Advantage health plans next year, generally with lower costs for drug coverage. These plans offer an opportunity for additional benefits beyond those covered in the original Medicare program, with savings that average around \$82 a month for hospital and physician benefits. In addition to these savings, Medicare Advantage plans provide overall care coordination, and more effective use of drugs that lead to savings in other health care costs. As a result, the cost of drug coverage in Medicare Advantage plans is about \$6 a month lower on average nationally in 2007 than in 2006. In addition, most beneficiaries will have access to plans that provide basic drug coverage for \$0, and many will have access to plans that also provide coverage in the gap for \$0.

In addition to prescription drug plans, Medicare beneficiaries in 39 states will have access to the first Medical Savings Account plans and related consumer-directed plans ever available in Medicare. These plans provide Medicare beneficiaries with more control over their health care utilization and health care costs, while providing them with important coverage against catastrophic health care costs.

Beneficiaries who want to consider other options will have access to help from many sources in the fall including: A notice of any coverage changes from their drug plan, coming at the end of October; The enhanced Medicare Drug Plan Finder will be available in mid-October; 1-800-Medicare (1-800-633-4227) which will be available 24/7; The Medicare & You 2007 handbook, the annual handbook that explains Medicare coverage, which beneficiaries will receive in October; and Local organizations such as the State Health Insurance Assistance Programs (SHIPs) and thousands of other Medicare partner organizations that will provide personalized assistance throughout the fall.

Long-Term Care, Consumer Issues Dominate State Legislative Successes

information gathered from AARP.com/ok

This was a successful year in the state Legislature for issues important to AARP members in Oklahoma. Highlights of the legislative session included the passage of these bills, supported by AARP and signed by Gov. Brad Henry (D).

Long-Term Care Oversight: Senate bill 1850, sponsored by Sen. Bernest Cain (D-Oklahoma City) and Rep. Lee Denney (R-Cushing), creates new responsibilities for the recently revamped Oklahoma State Board of Examiners for Long-Term Care Administrators. The board will be able to deny an initial application and renewal application by a nursing home administrator.

The board will also be able to warn, censure or impose administrative fines or other remedies on administrators.

Opportunities for Independent Living: Senate bill 2017, sponsored by Sen. Constance Johnson (D-Oklahoma City) and Rep. Thad Balkman (R-Norman), extends the Strategic Planning Committee on the Olmstead Decision (the Supreme Court decision on care for people with disabilities) until July 1, 2007. It creates the Opportunities for Independent Living Act, which establishes a three-year pilot program to help qualified individuals with disabilities living in institutions make the transition into the community.

Identity Theft Protection: Senate bill 1748, sponsored by Sen. Randy Bass (D-Lawton) and Rep. Terry Ingmire (R-Stillwater), requires consumer credit reporting agencies to place a security freeze on a credit report and remove the freeze at the request of the consumer. The new law also exempts consumers age 65 and older and all identity theft victims from paying fees to place a security freeze on their credit files or remove one.

Elder Exploitation Law: Senate bill 1793, sponsored by Sen. Ron Justice (R-Chickasha) and Rep. Phil Richardson (R-Minco), creates tougher penalties for criminals who prey on older people. Under the new Elder Exploitation Law, a person convicted of any exploitation involving the theft of property, assets or funds valued at more than \$100,000 will face a sentence of up to 15 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. If the theft is less than \$100,000, the violator will face a sentence of up to 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Regardless of amount, the crime is considered a felony. The bill also allows charges to be filed up to seven years after the date of discovery of an act of exploitation.

Lottery Ticket Prohibition: Senate bill 1089, sponsored by Sens. Kathleen Wilcoxen (R-Oklahoma City) and Sally Kern (R-Oklahoma City), bans the sale of state lottery tickets at pawn shops, payday lenders and check-cashing businesses.

Limiting Medicaid Reform Act: AARP Oklahoma opposed the Medicaid Reform Act of 2006, which allows the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to seek waivers to the state's Medicaid program. AARP Oklahoma opposed the bill because of its many unanswered questions about the voucher program and its impact on beneficiaries. Despite the bill's passage, AARP and other opponents of the bill were able to add language that effectively makes the first phase of the waiver program a pilot test, with provisions for an independent evaluation of access to health care, health care outcomes and cost efficiencies. The waiver will not be expanded statewide unless the governor and Legislature determine that it produces improvements in these three areas.

Future Opportunities: The 2006 Oklahoma Legislature produced some important victories for the state's older residents, but lawmakers failed to address issues including additional staffing requirements for Alzheimer's disease units, a permanent state funding solution for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program and additional rights for grandparents raising grandchildren. The Oklahoma Aging Partnership, a coalition that includes AARP Oklahoma, the Oklahoma State Council on Aging, the Oklahoma Aging Alliance and the Oklahoma Silver Haired Legislature Alumni Association, will continue communicating its position to state legislators on these and other issues crucial to older Oklahomans.

AARP News and Information

Identity theft is big business. Losses to businesses total \$50 billion annually, the Federal Trade Commission reports. In the last five years, 27 million Americans have had their identities stolen.

Stealing Your Good Name : The identity thief gets your personal information in many inventive ways. Rings of identity thieves often go to city dumps or apartment dumpsters to comb through trash to get receipts with names and financial information. E-mail fishing expeditions are another way. Pretending to be e-Bay users or businesses you have used, the crooks e-mail you saying that a question about your account has come up and they just want to make sure your information is correct. Identity thieves are skilled liars.

Identity thieves also do the following:

- Steal your purse or wallet
 - Pilfer information from your mail box such as bank statements and pre-approved credit card applications
 - Act as your employer, loan officer or landlord to get your credit report
 - Watch your transactions at automated teller machines and phone booths to capture your ATM card personal identification number (PIN)
- Guarding Yourself :** In the face of the increasing epidemic of I.D. theft, what can you do? The first thing is to get as much information about identity theft as you can. Read articles in the newspapers and magazines. Watch TV programs that discuss identity theft. Check your credit report at least once a year and correct any errors.
- Next, don't give out your Social Security number unless it's absolutely required, for example by the federal or state governments. Don't have your number printed on your checks. Get a new driver's license that doesn't show your number. Some businesses routinely include Social Security numbers on their application forms, for example, a well-known video rental chain. Ask any business why it needs your number. When customers resist, managers usually waive it.
- Other steps you can take include:
- Carefully get rid of papers with personal information. Tear up or shred charge receipts, bank statements, expired credit cards, credit offers.
 - Cut back the number of cards you carry. Don't routinely take your Social Security number, birth certificate or passport with you.
 - Be aware of others who are nearby when you're using your PIN. Don't throw your ATM receipt in the wastebasket.
 - Don't give your credit card or bank account number over the phone, through the mail, or over the Internet unless you confirm you are dealing with an actual representative of a legitimate business.
 - Secure personal information in your home, especially if you employ outside help or are having work done in your home.

PBS Will Air 'Can You Afford to Retire?'

After you have voted for the candidate of your choice on Nov. 7, make another wise choice Nov. 10 and watch the Public Broadcasting Service "Frontline" program "Can You Afford to Retire?" This one-hour, encore presentation is hosted by award-winning journalist Hedrick Smith and outlines major shifts in the costs and responsibility for retirement savings. The documentary also explores many of the factors placing retirement security at risk: an increase in individual responsibility for retirement savings, longer life expectancy, a lack of investor savvy and a crowded and complex financial marketplace.

"Can You Afford to Retire?" will air on most PBS stations across the country. Check your local listings for the time in your area. Member outreach for this documentary and other financial security programs is just one way AARP works to address the financial and retirement security needs of all generations of Americans. If you'd like to learn more about your financial security, visit online at www.aarp.org/finance.

Health Discoveries

Insulin Influence : New studies are confirming that people with diabetes or obesity are at greater risk for Alzheimer's, researchers reported at an international conference in July.

In an aging country, with an estimated 73 million Americans who have diabetes or pre diabetes, the findings could mean a surge in dementia cases. But "changes in diet and exercise and drugs already developed for diabetes may prove useful to better treat and prevent Alzheimer's," says Ronald Petersen, M.D., director of the Mayo Clinic's Alzheimer's Disease Center.

Diabetics do not properly produce or use insulin, a hormone that regulates the body's use of sugar. Imaging studies indicate that dementia advances as insulin levels in the brain fall. Imaging also enables doctors to diagnose dementia earlier and learn what drugs and other therapies are effective.

Reverend Jimmy Anderson honored 50 years of service

HOLDENVILLE — Rev. Jimmy Anderson was honored for 50 years of service in the ministry on Sept. 14, 2006 at Many Springs Baptist Church.

Principal Chief A.D. Ellis presented him with a plaque and he also received a quilt made by several ladies in the church.

Jimmy was born Aug. 14, in Kansas City, Mo. to Norman and Mattie (Stidham) Anderson, full-blood Creeks. His father died in 1933 in Kansas City.

In 1934, the family moved to Holdenville and lived with their aunt, Lillie Stidham. She helped raise the family. Jimmy's sister, Ruby, would attend Eufaula Boarding School and then Haskell Institute. Richard, his brother, would attend Euchee Boarding School, go in the military, and then attend Haskell. Jimmy attended Euchee from 1944-1947 and then would enroll at Haskell, graduating in 1954.

Jimmy then attended the University of Oklahoma 1955 to 1957, graduating with a Bachelor of Fine Arts.

During those years, Jimmy was a member of the First Indian Baptist Church in Oklahoma City, which became South Central Baptist Church. In 1956, Jimmy surrendered to the call to the ministry and was licensed by the church.

In 1958 to 1961, God opened the doors for Jimmy to enroll at

Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

In 1959, Jimmy married Cowena Sue Bruner and she returned to Eastern Seminary with him. Cowena became secretary to the Seminary Vice President.

After graduation in 1961, Jimmy and Cowena came to Oklahoma where he became an assistant to Dr. B. Frank Belvin, General Missionary to the Muskogee/Seminole/Wichita Baptist Association. In November of 1961, Jimmy was ordained by Many Springs Church. Cowena became Dr. Belvin's secretary. They served the pastors and churches with Dr. Belvin through the fall of 1963, when Dr. Belvin and Victor Kaneubbe, asked if the young couple would accept the pastorate of the Fruitland Navajo Baptist Mission, near Farmington, New Mexico.

During 1963-1954, they served this congregation over a year until the Home Mission Board asked them to apply as missionaries under their Language Missions Department.

From 1964 to 1967, Jimmy and Cowena served 3 Navajo Baptist Mission points on the reservation-Mexican Springs, Tohatchi, and Naschitti.

During 1967-1970, the couple then accepted the pastorate at the First Indian Baptist Church in Gallup, N.M., and at Ft. Wingate.

From 1970 to 1974, Jimmy accepted the pastorate at First Indian Baptist Mission at Shawnee, Oklahoma and would help lead them to be a self-supporting church. The church began an Indian Alcohol Recovery Center and helped secure Indian counselors for the Shawnee Mid-High and High School.

In 1974 through 1986, the couple then accepted the position as General Missionaries to the MSW Baptist Association, assuming the position held by Dr. Belvin. During these years, mission teams began going out across the country.

During 1987 to 1994, Jimmy became Statewide Indian Church Developer for the Baptist General Convention of Oklahoma. Mission teams continued and training classes started for the pastors and churches.

From 1994 to 1997, Jimmy accepted the position of National Indian Consultant for the Home Mission Board, succeeding Russell Begaye, who became the Director of the Language Missions Department of the Home Mission Board. Mission teams would go to



Rev. Jimmy Anderson ministering during services at Many Springs Baptist Church.

Alaska, Central America, Australia, New Zealand, and Mexico.

Jimmy retired in June, 1997, but he and Cowena remained with the Board for one more year, until a replacement was found. In retirement, the couple has not remained idle. He is still taking mission teams out, helping native people as the calls come.

In 2002, the couple went out to Stroud, Oklahoma and Jimmy became Interim Pastor of the Gloryland Baptist Church, among the

Sac and Fox people.

From 2003 until present, Jimmy is Associate Pastor of Many Springs Baptist Church, Holdenville, the home church of both him and Cowena, having been raised here on the grounds as young people growing up. Cowena is the daughter of a former pastor of Many Springs, Revered Arthur J. Bruner.

Jimmy and Cowena have four sons, Jeffrey, Jon, Billy, and Andrew, and six grandchildren.

3rd Annual Church Meeting

OKMULGEE — The 3rd Annual Church Leaders Meeting was held on Saturday, Sept. 16.

Alfred Berryhill, Second Chief began with an opening song/prayer.

Principal Chief A. D. Ellis, welcomed and explained the purpose of the meeting.

National Council Representatives explained the special appropriation and grant process.

Agencies of the tribe gave an overview of Services. Involved were Ben Chaney Transit System, Yvette Wiley, Environmental Specialist and IHS Representative Cason Le Blanc.

National Council Okmulgee District Representatives William "Bill"

Jones and James Jennings were also in attendance. Some of the questions asked to Transit Authority Ben Chaney dealt with road paving.

Second Chief Berryhill spoke about plans to purchase four acres to put a Creek National Cemetery within our jurisdiction one each for the north and southern part of Creek Territory.

Reverend Rachel Boyiddle a Western Delaware spoke about the past five years serving in and around Creek Nation. Boyiddle spoke about how the tribe supports their churches. She has Mutteloke, Pickett and Springfield Churches. She spoke of the joint effort with the tribe and the members of Springfield Church.



Third Annual Churches Leaders meeting.



Chief Ellis is pictured with Rev. Jimmy Anderson after receiving his proclamation.

Church Activities

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

OKEMAH — Prairie Springs Indian Baptist Church will be hosting a 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament on October 14 beginning at 9:30 a.m. at the Okemah Park. Free hotdogs and drinks for everyone.

Age groups include: boys, 12-14 and 15-18; girls, 12-14 and 15-18. The team must consist of 4 man roster and if you are 18 years old, you must be in high school. Players participating must be at the Okemah Park to sign up between 9 to 9:30 a.m. Brackets will be drawn at 9:30 a.m.

For more information, call Elton Smith at (405) 395-9303 or Chad Smith at (405) 382-6126.

Sports Festival

DAVIS — A Sports Festival will be held at the Indian Falls Creek grounds on October 21 beginning at 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. Events include: 3 on 3 basketball, adult, middle and high school; Sand Co-ed Volleyball (recreation and spike), adult, middle and high school; Kickball, 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th; 5k Run/Walk, all ages; Horse shoes, adults male and female; Chess and Checkers, all ages; Little Olympics, 5th grade and younger; Golf Tournament, all ages and games.

Lunch and Worship service at noon. Each church will supply their own meal. Bring blankets or lawn chairs. Worship service will be directed

by the Native Youth and Young Adult Conference.

Entry fee is donations only. Donations are not mandatory to participate. Make checks payable to Indian Falls Creek. Registration Fee is \$1 per person. Deadline for entry is October 16. E-mail, mail or call in your churches entry list of events entered to Victor Cope, 514 Ann Drive, Tecumseh, OK 74873, phone (405) 598-8720 or to Ndnrev@aol.com

In case of inclement weather, worship service will be in the amphitheater until the conditions improve.

Fall Festival

HENRYETTA — Randall Indian Baptist Church will be hosting a Fall Festival on October 28. A weiner roast will start at 4 p.m. and worship service begins at 6 p.m. Games and a hayride will begin immediately following the service.

The church is located one mile south and one mile west of Wilson School.

100th year Celebration

OKEMAH — High Spring Church will be celebrating their 100th year of service on November 4 at 11 a.m. There will be a worship service by Rev. George Doyle, Hog Fry, Creek and gospel singing hosted by Rev. Eastman Factor.

For more information, call Richard at (405) 257-3512, Zelma at (405) 944-5970 or Pastor at (405) 944-9936.

The church is located five miles south of Okemah on Highway 27.

2006 Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference Appointments

ANADARKO — The following appointments were made at the 2006 Annual Conference Session of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of the United Methodist Church, held June 8 through 11.

(Bold print= changes in appoint-

ment, status of appointee, or circuit changes).

- Arbeka/Seminole Hitchitee, Abe Jackson FE/FT
- Big Cussetah, Tommy Vann PL
- Broken Arrow, Belle Harjo FL
- Canterbury Chapel TBS, Meri Whitaker SY
- Choska/Mutteloke, Michael Eddy PL
- Christ UMC, Eli McHenry PL
- Concharly/Honey Creek TBS, Newman Frank, Jr. Lay/SY
- Covers Chapel TBS
- Davis Chapel, Ben Ewing PL
- D.D. Etchieson/Stilwell Mission, Brad Drowningbear FE/FT
- Fife Memorial TBS, Anita Phillips SY

- Grant Chapel TBS, Walter McGirt SY
- Haikey Chapel/Springtown, July Tecumseh FL
- Lawrence Indian/Sullivan Chapel/Kahbeah Fellowship, Julienne Judd FE/FT
- Kaney Chapel TBS, Jerry Baker RE
- Little Cussetah, Judy Aaron PL
- Nagawee, Becky McMillan PL
- New Hope, Roger Scott FE/FT
- Newtown, June Thomas FL
- Pickett Chapel, William Foote, Sr. FL
- Salt Creek/Wewoka, James Smith PL
- Springfield/Thlopthlocco, Rachel Boyiddle PL
- Thewarley/Yeager, David Dunson PL
- Tulsa Indian TBS-Don Jones R

Muscogee, Seminole and Wichita Association 4th Sunday Dates

Alabama Cedar Spring Cold Spring Forest Creek Mission Hutchachuppa Little Coweta Little Quarsarty Many Springs Okmulgee Prairie Spring Spring Weogufkee West Eufaula Yardeka Quarsada Alabama	Artusse Bemo Beaver Bird Creek Deep Fork Hillabee Hickory Ground #2 Hillabee Mekusukey Middle Creek #2 Montesoma Okfuskee Pigeon Sand Creek Eufaula Silver Spring Tulmochussee Wetumka	Baptist S.S. Mission Butler Creek Cedar Creek Cedar Creek Eufaula Grave Creek Greenleaf Nuyaka Randall Ross Mission Sand Creek Sand Spring Thewarthle Tookparfka Tuskegee Seminole Arbeka Wekiwa Wewoka	Arbeka Big Arbor Cedar River Hickory Ground #1 High Spring (Okemah) High Spring (Konawa) Little Cussetah Middle Creek #1 New Arbor Rock Spring Salt Creek Snake Creek #1 Snake Creek #2 Seminole Baptist Vian Creek Trenton
October 1 October 29 November 26 December 24	October 8 November 5 December 3 December 31	October 15 November 12 December 10 January 7, 2007	October 22 November 19 December 17 January 14, 2007

BIRTHS

Ryan James Alexander

TULSA — Ryan James Alexander was born June 16 at Tulsa Regional Medical Center to Tricia Todd and Tony Alexander. He weighed 7 lbs. and 5 oz. and was 20 inches in length. Maternal grandparents are Ira (Poncho) Fields, Jr. of Tulsa and Cheri and the late Mike Haney of Glenpool. Maternal great-grandparents are Marie and the late Ira Fields, Sr. and Pauline and the late Woodrow Haney, all of Glenpool. Paternal grandparents are Pastor Jimmy and Lorena Alexander of Glenpool. Paternal great-grandparents are the late Mildred and Marlin Johnson and Pastor Bill and Mary Alexander of Oakhurst. He is of the Tiger clan and Polecat (Kellyville) Stomp Grounds. Ryan has one sister, Serena, and brother, Jacob Todd.



Alisia Ann Lindsey

TAHLEQUAH — Alisia Ann Lindsey was born July 8 at Hastings Hospital to Freeland Lindsey and Krystal Wind of Eufaula. She weighed 7 lbs. and 10 oz. and was 19 ½ inches in length. Paternal grandparents are Todd and Peggy Sangl of Eufaula and the late Buddy Lindsey, Jr. of Okmulgee. Maternal grandparents are Daniel and Elkeena Wind, and Stephanie Carmona, all of Okmulgee.



Johnathan Michael Young

STILLWATER, Minn. — Johnathan Michael Young was born August 22 at Lakeview Hospital to Michael and Julia Ybarra-Young. He weighed 7 lbs. and 8 oz. and measured 21 ½ inches in length. Maternal grandparents are Julian Ybarra Jr. and Mary Frances (Frank) Ybarra of Manhattan, Kansas. His maternal great-grandparents are the late John and Nancy Frank of Okemah. He has three sisters, Mikayla, Marisa and Mya.



BIRTHDAYS

Quineshia Lynn Carr

SHAWNEE — Quineshia Carr celebrated her sixth birthday on September 8 with a “Bratz” theme party at her Aunt Sylvia Davis’ home. Quineshia is the daughter of Maxine and Ron Graham and Quinon Carr. Paternal grandparents are Joy Carr and the late Don Carr of Castle. Maternal grandparents are Roosevelt Davis of Wewoka and LaRuth Davis of Shawnee. Quineshia is of Creek and Seminole descent and of the Bear clan.



Christian and Deborah Cloud

TAHLEQUAH — Christian Cloud turned six years old on July 27 and Makai Dunson turned two years old on July 12, with a “Clifford the Big Red Dog” theme party at Okemah Lake. Christian and Deborah, are the daughters of Dustin and Shannon Cloud of Tahlequah and LaCreshia Littlehead of Broken Arrow. They are of the Turtle clan and members of Duck Creek and Nuyaka Ceremonial grounds. Christian and Deborah have three brothers, Derek, Daniel and Nathan and sisters, Destiny and Sadie.



Aubree Michelle Davis

SHAWNEE — Aubree Michelle Davis celebrated her first birthday on September 25 with a “Princess” theme party. Aubree is the daughter of Brandon Davis-Barkus and Priscilla Schimmel. Paternal grandparents are Ron and Maxine Graham and Rodney Barkus of Oklahoma City. Maternal grandparents are Dennis and Crystal Schimmel of Shawnee. She is of Creek, Seminole and Pottawatomie descent and is of the Bear clan.



Makayla Lynn and Makai Dunson

OKEMAH — Makayla Lynn Dunson turned seven years old on July 27 and Makai Dunson turned two years old on July 12, with a “Clifford the Big Red Dog” theme party at Okemah Lake. Makayla is the daughter of Tara Kay Dunson and Boone Watson. Maternal grandparents are Mike and Randi Dunson of Okemah and Donna Dunson of Tulsa. Paternal grandmother is Amy Hill of Okemah. Makai Dunson is the son of Anthony Dunson. Paternal grandparents are Mike and Randi Dunson of Okemah and Donna Dunson of Tulsa.



Madison Jolene and Marissa Riann Proctor

TULSA — Madison Jolene turned four years old on September 5 with a “Dora” theme party at Chuck E. Cheese. Marissa Riann turned 10 years old on September 26 with a “Bratz” theme party at Incredible Pizza. They are the daughter of Marva Jackson. Maternal grandparents are Flora and Joe Jackson.



MUSCOGEE PEOPLE

BIA names Kelly Harjo as Superintendent Okmulgee Agency, Eastern Oklahoma Region

MUSKOGEE — Regional Director Jeanette Hanna has announced she has named Kelly N. Harjo as Superintendent of the Okmulgee Agency in the Eastern Oklahoma Region of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The appointment was effective August 20, 2006. Harjo, comes to his appointment after having served in various management positions at the BIA’s Headquarters, Albuquerque, New Mexico, and Eastern Oklahoma Regional Office in Muskogee.

“I am very pleased that Kelly Harjo will be taking the leadership role at our Okmulgee Agency,” Hanna said. “His level of knowledge, as well as his programmatic and managerial experience, will ensure that the BIA will continue its commitment to providing quality service to the four Federally recognized Tribes serviced by the Okmulgee Agency.”

As Superintendent, Harjo will provide Bureau services to the four Tribes - Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town, Kialegee Tribal Town, and Thlopthlocco Tribal Town - and oversee the administration and day to day operations of the Agency; the Agency is one of six field sites in the Eastern Oklahoma Region. Services are provided by the Okmulgee Agency to the four Tribes and its Tribal members residing in its service area. The Agency delivers trustee services for both restricted and Tribal trust lands and oversight of Tribal operations. The Superintendent is the key Government official for the Bureau at this organization level.

Mr. Harjo began his career with the Federal Government in 1982 with the Bureau of Indian Affairs Budget Office in Washington D.C. In 1988, he was promoted to a Budget Analyst position and in 1996, accepted a similar position in the BIA’s Division of Transportation Headquarters’ office in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Mr. Harjo was extensively involved with implementing a process to distribute Indian Reservation Roads funding to all Tribes participating in the program. In October, 2005, Mr. Harjo joined the Eastern Oklahoma Region.

Harjo, who was born in Okmulgee, Oklahoma and raised in Tulsa, is a 1979 graduate of Union High School in Tulsa.



Creek citizen joins Children’s Medical Center staff

ALBUQUERQUE — Pediatric surgeon, Bryan C. Weidner, M.D., has joined the Children’s Medical Center at Presbyterian Hospital and adds many surgical procedures, including laparoscopic surgery for infants and children, to the Center’s wide range of pediatric services.

Dr. Weidner received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania and completed surgical training at Duke University. He completed his pediatric surgery fellowship at the University of Washington. His most recent teaching and surgical posts were at the University of Alabama Department of Surgery. He has published extensively on pediatric surgery and care and has won many awards for his outstanding teaching.

Dr. Weidner is the son of Dr. Larry Weidner and Sue Chaney Weidner. He is the grandson of the late Dora S. Colbert Chaney.

He is a member of the Bear clan.



Bruner-Still chosen for “Gimme the Mike” contestant

TULSA — Carmen Bruner-Still was chosen to be one of the twenty semi-finalists out of 300 entries on KOTV, Channel 6, “Gimme the Mike” talent contest.

She had the opportunity to perform on a televised show on July 24th, on stage at the Cain’s Ballroom. She sang the gospel song “Stand” by Donnie McClurkin. Carmen lost by one point from becoming a finalist.

Bruner-Still is a member of the Bristow Indian Community and Rogers Chapel Missionary Baptist Church.

She is the daughter of Lewis and Rachel Bruner. Her tribal town is Wakokiye and she belongs to the Wind clan.



Moore named Indian Physician of the Year

ST. PAUL, Minn. — The Association of American Indian Physicians (AAIP) has named Dr. Kelly Moore as the 2006 Indian Physician of the Year. Dr. Susan Sloan, AAIP Board of Directors President, presented the award to Moore during the organization’s 35th Annual Meeting and National Health Conference on August 8.

“Her longtime support of AAIP, her contributions to the organization’s activities, and her outstanding personal accomplishments as an American Indian physician were recognized with this award,” said Margaret Knight, AAIP Executive Director.

Moore has been an active member of AAIP since 1987. She is a 1983 graduate of the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine and completed a residency in Pediatrics at the University of Oklahoma Tulsa Medical College. She currently is a clinical consultant with the Indian Health Service Division of Diabetes Treatment and Prevention in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

She began her career with the Indian Health Service on the Navajo Reservation in Arizona. During the mid 1990’s, she served as the clinical director and sole pediatrician for the Pima Indians of the Gila River Indian Community of southern Arizona. While there, she became interested in the growing public health concern of type 2 diabetes in American Indian youth and began her first experience in clinical research. Since that time, Moore has served the IHS both as a medical administrator and diabetes consultant. Along with her interests in type 2 diabetes in childhood and its links with childhood obesity, Moore served as the IHS Chief Clinical Consultant for Pediatrics from 2002-2004. She is a captain in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

With more than 19 years of experience working in Indian health, Moore is a nationally-recognized expert in type 2 diabetes in American Indian/Alaska Native youth and childhood obesity. She serves as a liaison member for AAIP on the Committee on Native American Child Health of the American Academy of Pediatrics. Moore has also assisted in the development of educational and health communication materials, primarily for an American Indian/Alaska Native audience on a national level. She is a member of the American Diabetes Association Youth Project Design Team, the American Diabetes Association Awakening the Spirit Team, the National Institute of Health Diabetes Education in Tribal Schools steering committee, and is the chair of the American Indian/Alaska Native Workgroup of the National Diabetes Education Program. Moore’s work has an international impact with her recent appointment as the Chair of the Indigenous Peoples Workgroup of the International Diabetes Federation Campaign for a United Nations Resolution on Diabetes.

Moore said after the ceremony, “I am honored to receive this award from AAIP and to be among the esteemed physicians who have previously received this award. I pledge to continue my support to the mission of AAIP in the pursuit of excellence in Native American health care. It is also my privilege to continue to work with our members to inspire and motivate American Indian and Alaska Native students to become our next generation of medical professionals and health policy leaders.”

Isaak and Kolby Factor

OKEMAH — Isaak and Kolby Factor celebrated their first birthday on August 22.

Isaak and Kolby are the sons of Daniel and Ellie Factor of Okemah.

Maternal grandparents are Elliot and Susanna Barnett and Della Proctor, all of Okmulgee. Maternal great-grandparents are the late Austin and Mamie Barnett of Eufaula and the late Judy Lasley Proctor of Hanna.

Paternal grandparents are Noah and Lucinda Factor of Okemah. Paternal great-grandparents are Wilson and Ina Hicks of Okemah.

They have one sister Kaitlyn, nine, and Josiah, four.

They are descendants of the Deer clan and attend Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church.



Council

continued from A3

FIFE; B. FIFE; S. ALEXANDER (\$15,000.00)

AUGUST 22, 2006, EMERGENCY SESSION

REPRESENTATIVES EXCUSED ARE: LARRY BIBLE, JEFF FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON, TOM PICKERING AND CHERRAH QUIETT.

ABSENT WERE: TOM PICKERING; THOMAS MCINTOSH; ROBERT JONES; KEEPER JOHNSON; JEFF FIFE; LARRY BIBLE AND CHERRAH QUIETT;

ORDER OF BUSINESS:
• APPROVED (18-0-0) TR 06-127, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO SUBMIT A SMALL GRANT SUPPORT CONTRACT TO THE OKLAHOMA ARTS COUNCIL FOR THE NATION TO OBTAIN FUNDING FOR THE UPCOMING WARM MVSKOKE WELCOME SPONSOR: EDDIE

AUGUST 26, REGULAR SESSION:

ABSENT WERE: PETE BEAVER; SHIRLENE ADE; LARRY BIBLE WAS EXCUSED.

SPEAKER GEORGE TIGER, CREEK DISTRICT, CONDUCTED THE MEETING AND DID NOT VOTE.

VETO MESSAGE:

• FAILED (12-11-0) NCA 06-168; A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TULSA LIBRARY TRUST AS PLEDGED IN TR 06-052 FOR THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION FIREPLACE LOUNGE AND THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CHILDREN’S STORYTIME AREA OF THE HERMAN AND KATE KAISER LIBRARY RETURNED BY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF AS A VETO WITH OBJECTIONS

VOTING NO WERE: DUKE HARJO; LENA WIND; ROBERT JONES; KEEPER JOHNSON; JEFF FIFE; BO JOHNSON; JAMES JENNINGS; SYLVANNA CALDWELL; THOMAS YAHOLA; RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

DUE TO A TIE VOTE, SPEAKER GEORGE TIGER VOTES YES. THEREFORE, THE FOLLOWING RESULTS BEING RECORDED: 12 IN FAVOR, 11 AGAINST, 0 ABSTENTIONS

• APPROVED (12-11-0) NCR 06-002; A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE SPEAKER TO EXECUTE A GAMING CONSULTANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NATIONAL COUNCIL, MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND NELSON C. JOHNSON OF EAGLE STAR ADVISORS, L.L.C. SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ADE; G. TIGER;

VOTING NO WERE: TRAVIS SCOTT; BILL FIFE; KEEPER

JOHNSON; JEFF FIFE; BO JOHNSON; JAMES JENNINGS; THOMAS YAHOLA; CHERRAH QUIETT; PAULA WILLITS; RICHARD BERRYHILL; AND JOHNNIE GREENE;

REPRESENTATIVE SAM ALEXANDER OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE;

• KILLED (21-0-0) TR 06-030; TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF DEL NUTTER TO THE POSITION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING;

• APPROVED (13-9-0) TR 06-096; A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING TR 05-072 (A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF LAND IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA) AND AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF LAND IN OKMULGEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA FOR THE ADJUSTED AMOUNT ON THE PURCHASE SPONSOR: GEORGE TIGER;

VOTING NO WERE: DUKE HARJO; ROGER BARNETT; THOMAS MCINTOSH; EDDIE LAGRONE; KEEPER JOHNSON; JEFF FIFE; BO JOHNSON; RON CLEGHORN AND SAM ALEXANDER;

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (22-0-0) TR 06-097, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A BUSINESS EDITION CUSTOMER AGREEMENT WITH WILDBLUE COMMUNICATIONS, INC. TO PROVIDE INTERNET SERVICE TO THE FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM SPONSOR: LENA WIND

• APPROVED (21-1-0) TR 06-109; A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A REAL ESTATE CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN MCINTOSH COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. MCINTOSH; A. NOTARO

VOTING NO WERE: KEEPER JOHNSON;

• APPROVED (21-1-0) TR 06-110, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION OF JONODEV OSCEOLA CHAUDHURI FOR APPOINTMENT TO SERVE AS A JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

VOTING NO WERE: ROGER BARNETT;

• APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-111, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING SITE CLEARANCE AT THE CHECOTAH INDIAN COMMUNITY GAMING CENTER FOR THE PURPOSE OF

EXPANDING THE PARKING LOT SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. MCINTOSH; A. NOTARO

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (22-0-0) TR 06-115, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONDITIONAL REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN HOLDENVILLE, OKLAHOMA TO BE USED BY THE DIVISION OF HOUSING SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (22-0-0) TR 06-116, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONDITIONAL REAL ESTATE PURCHASE AGREEMENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY LOCATED IN WAINWRIGHT, OKLAHOMA TO BE USED BY THE DIVISION OF HOUSING SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE;

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TR 06-117, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO PURCHASE AND INSTALL A NEW PROGRAMMABLE SIGN FOR THE CREEK NATION CASINO TULSA AND TO EXECUTE CONTRACTS WITH SELECTED CONTRACTOR FOR SAID SIGN SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (22-0-0) TR 06-119, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA SPONSORED RESEARCH AGREEMENT FY 07-ORA3-04 FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA TO DEMARCATHE THE NATION’S TERRITORY BOUNDARIES SPONSOR: PAULA WILLITS;

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY TR 06-121, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH VIDEO GAMING TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR A TERM OF THREE YEARS SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER

• APPROVED (14-8-0) TR 06-122, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND JOE J. HUTCHISON SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO

VOTING NO WERE: DUKE HARJO; ROGER BARNETT; BILL FIFE; ROBERT JONES; KEEPER JOHNSON; JEFF FIFE; BO JOHNSON; RON CLEGHORN;

• TABLED (22-0-0) TR 06-123, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING CREEK NATION CASINO TULSA AND CREEK NATION CASINO MUSCOGEE TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER;

• APPROVED (18-4-0) TR 06-124, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO PREPARE AND SUBMIT A TRIBAL FAMILY ASSISTANCE PLAN FOR THE NATION TO OBTAIN FUNDING TO CREATE A TRIBAL TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM SPONSOR: CHERRAH QUIETT

VOTING NO WERE: BILL FIFE; JEFF FIFE; RON CLEGHORN AND SAM ALEXANDER;

REPRESENTATIVE SHIRLENE ADE ARRIVED. THEREFORE, TWENTY-FOUR PRESENT WITH TWO ABSENT.

• APPROVED (17-6-0) TR 06-125, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF JUDY AARON TO THE POSITION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM SPONSOR: CHERRAH QUIETT

VOTING NO WERE: TOM PICKERING; BO JOHNSON; SYLVANNA CALDWELL; PAULA WILLITS; RICHARD BERRYHILL AND JOHNNIE GREENE;

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (23-0-0) TR 06-126, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR THE PURCHASE OF LAND IN OKFUSKEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT;

• APPROVED (21-2-0) NCA 06-174, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION RETURNING UNUSED FUNDS TO THE TRIBAL TREASURY AND REPEALING NCA 06-074 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE VETERANS’ AFFAIRS SERVICES OFFICE TO DISBURSE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MUSCOGEE VETERANS, SURVIVING SPOUSES AND ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AND THEIR SPOUSES) SPONSOR: ROBERT JONES;

VOTING NO WERE: TOM PICKERING AND JEFF FIFE;

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (23-0-0) NCA 06-187, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 05-261 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION REPEALING NCA 05-004 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY IN MCINTOSH COUNTY, OKLAHOMA TO BE USED TO CONSTRUCT A SENIOR AND/OR HEALTH FACILITY) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY IN EUFAULA, OKLAHOMA FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING A HEALTH FACILITY AND FOR ANY INCIDENTAL COSTS ASSOCIATED THEREWITH) SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING; CO-SPONSOR(S): T. MCINTOSH; A. NOTARO;

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (23-0-0) NCA 06-188, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MC NCA TITLE 21, §4-102 A. ENTITLED “BOARD COMPOSITION”, RELATING TO PROCE-

DURES FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD SPONSOR: RON CLEGHORN; CO-SPONSOR(S): S. ALEXANDER; R. LAGRONE; J. FIFE REPRESENTATIVE JAMES JENNINGS EXCUSED.

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY AS AMENDED (23-0-0) NCA 06-190, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE EMERGENCY HARDSHIP PROGRAM FOR DIRECT CLIENT SERVICES SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$50,000.00)

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (22-0-0) NCA 06-191, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A BUDGET MODIFICATION FOR THE OFFICE OF CHILD CARE FY 2004 BUDGET IN EXCESS OF 10% SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT

REPRESENTATIVE TRAVIS SCOTT OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

• APPROVED (21-0-0) NCA 06-193, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE TRIBAL ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SPONSOR: SHIRLENE ADE; CO-SPONSOR: SAM ALEXANDER (\$10,000.00)

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (22-0-0) NCA 06-194, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR THE 2005 BASIC LIBRARY SERVICES GRANT AWARD TO THE EUFAULA DORMITORY LIBRARY OF THE DIVISION OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING;

• RETURN TO COMMITTEE (22-0-0) NCA 06-196, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL TRADE AND COMMERCE AUTHORITY FOR ITS FISCAL YEAR 2007 OPERATIONAL BUDGET SPONSOR: ROGER BARNETT (\$1,021,481.00);

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (22-0-0) NCA 06-198, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MC NCA TITLE 16, §1-102.2.E. TO CREATE A TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM WITHIN THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES SPONSOR: CHERRAH QUIETT;

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY (22-0-0) NCA 06-202, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF REAL PROPERTY IN OKFUSKEE COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT (\$40,000.00)

• APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY NCA 06-206, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CODE ANNOTATED TITLE 18, §2-102.F., “HIGHER EDUCATION-TRIBAL GRANTS” AND §2-103, “HIGHER EDUCATION-INCENTIVE GRANTS” TO AMEND AWARD AMOUNT AND GUIDELINES SPONSOR: TOM PICKERING.

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GEORGE ADAMS

CALIFORNIA — George Washington Adams, great grandson of Thomas J. Adams, former Speaker of the House of Kings and the House of Warriors, the grandson of George Washington Adams.

He was the son of Willie Adams, an original allottee. George lived in California for 64 years. Survivors include: his brothers and sisters, Willie Jr., Christine, Leonard, Verna Jean, James and Mary L. Adams; nieces and nephews; and an extended family of relatives.

CHARLES BERRYHILL

LOMPOC, Calif. — Funeral services for Charles “Bud” Berryhill were held August 10. He was born March 4, 1921 in Coweta, Oklahoma to Maggie and Creek Nation Allottee Albert Berryhill. Charles married Barbara Nichols in 1943 in Worcester, Massachusetts and they moved to California in 1946.

Charles, a veteran of 30 years federal service, worked in one capacity or another for the Army, the Navy, and the Air Force. During World War II, he served as a staff sergeant for the U.S. Army in both England and the African – Middle Eastern Theater. He also served during the Korean Conflict. While a first sergeant at Camp Cooke, now Vandenberg AFB, he initiated a “soldier of the month” program for the men under him. Since its initiation, this program has mushroomed into an inter-service, world wide program. In 1952 he began work at the Point Mugu Missile Test Center in California and eventually became Head of the Special Projects Branch. While with the Pacific Missile Range at Point Mugu, he had a large part in the development of the first missile tracking site located on Vandenberg AFB for tracking missiles fired from US Navy cruisers in the Pacific. He transferred to Lompoc in 1965 where he pursued his career as an aerospace manager with the Western Test Range at Vandenberg. He served as the project manager on the first launches from Vandenberg of both the Thor and Atlas missiles.

Later, after retirement, Charles was instrumental in the development of the Lompoc Senior Citizens Center. He served on the Santa Barbara Community Action Commission and he was also volunteer for the Santa Barbara County Food Bank.

He was preceded in death by: his parents, Albert Berryhill and Maggie Pennington; three sisters, Ruth, Francis, and Elizabeth, and his three brothers Jim, Albert, and Perry.

He is survived by: his wife Barbara Berryhill of Lompoc; three children, Bruce Berryhill of Richmond, Virginia, Nancy Lindsey of Kamuela, Hawaii, Susan Ur of Lompoc; eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

BUSTER BURGESS

PRINEVILLE, Ore. — Funeral services for Buster Bean Burgess were held August 1 at Prineville Funeral Home with Rev. Willard Fenderson officiating.

He was born in Okmulgee on September 19, 1918 to Riley and Mary Scott Burgess.

Buster served in the U.S. Army during WWII. He married Wisey Fields on May 10, 1946 in Fort Smith, Arkansas. They moved to Oregon in 1946 and settled in Salem, then moved to Prineville in 1947. He worked at lumber mills most of his life.

Burgess loved swimming, fishing, hunting, being in the outdoors, baseball, and woodworking. He also was an amateur boxer and loved to watch the Trailblazers play. Buster was a member of the American Legion.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; wife; one brother; one sister; cousin and granddaughter.

Survivors include: son, Timothy Burgess of Portland, Oregon; daughters, Verbena Coulter of Beaver Creek, Oregon, Rebecca Cruz of Canby, Oregon, Natalie Burgess of Prineville, Oregon, Lajeannia Morales and Melinda Puerta, both of Salem, Oregon; 11 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren and four great-great grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Red Cross Prostate Cancer Awareness fund.

ANDREW CAYWOOD

MANNFORD — Funeral services for Andrew Jonathan “Jon” Caywood were held September 27 at Lakeside Baptist Church with Pastor Jason Langley and Andrew and Andrea Caywood officiating.

He was born September 24, 1990 in Claremore to Melissa and Andrew Caywood.

Andrew loved to play soccer, baseball, basketball, paintball, watch movies and video games.

Preceding him in death were: his maternal grandparents, Melissa “Wecoche” and Buddy Misco Lindsey and Louise Whitlow and Wattie Wildcat; paternal grandparents, Ruth and John Dry and Opal and Andrew Caywood.

Survivors include: his parents; siblings, Andrea and Nicolas; maternal grandparents, Neomi Lindsey of Depew and Mose Danny Lindsey of Dewar; paternal grandparents, Susan and Sam Caywood of Mannford; and many aunts, uncles and cousins.

Pallbearers were: Dustin Backer; Hunter Pritchard; Chris Jordan; Dylan Hanks; Lewis and Jack Lindsey.

Interment was at Oak Hill Cemetery in Mannford.

NELLIE JONES

BRISTOW — Funeral services for Nellie Mae Barnett Jones were held September 13 at her residence with Eunice Hill speaking.

She was born May 13, 1920 in Okmulgee to Jackson and Ellie Johnson Barnett.

Nellie lived in the Creek County area most of her life and attended school at Olive.

She worked as a nurse’s aide for over 10 years at the Drumright Nursing Home and as a housekeeper in Tulsa for several years.

Jones was the eldest and a lifetime member of the Nuyaka Ceremonial Ground. She enjoyed gardening, quilting, bead work and ceremonial dance.

Preceding her in death was: her husband, Charley Jones; two sons, Chapman Cloud and Daniel Cloud, Jr.; two brothers and one sister.

Survivors include: two sons, Stephen of Herndon, Virginia and Benny Cloud of Bristow; step-son, Charles Jones of Claremore; daughter, Marilyn Dunson of Okmulgee; 19 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; 17 great-great grandchildren; and a host of other friends and family.

Interment was at the Johnson-McNac family cemetery.

WESLEY RICHARDS

HANNA — Funeral services for Wesley Lee “Little Beaver” Richards were held September 6 at Hillabee Indian Baptist Church with Rev. Richmond Carr officiating.

He was born on May 17, 1934 to Eastman and Marie Rowe Richards, Jr.

Wesley married Shirley Ruth Smith. He had retired from the City of Checotah, where he had read water meters for 15 years.

Richards was a founding member of the Creek Nation Indian Community and was a member of the “Liar’s Club” in the local cafe’s.

He was preceded in death by: his parents and two sisters, Shirley Fitzgerald and Peggy Woodard.

Survivors include: wife, Shirley of the home; son, Michael of Muskogee; daughter, Rhonda Huie of Heavener; brothers, Leon and Billy Richards, Ronnie and Bobby West, and Pete and Bo Woodard; sisters, Mary Jo Stanley, Janelle Johnson, and Janice West; four grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends.

Casketbearers were: Tim and Bobby Frame; Tim Newton; Brad Fox; Phillip McIntosh and Bill McKee.

Interment was at Greenlawn Cemetery.

MATTIE THOMAS

HANNA — Funeral services for Mattie Jean Thomas were held September 11 at Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church with Pastor Richard Carr officiating.

She was born January 5, 1933 in Hanna to Gilbert and Senora Simmons Lasley.

Mattie was a member of Wekiwa Baptist Church in Sand Springs, Weogufkee Tribal Ground and of the Deer Clan.

Thomas was a homemaker and did elderly care. She met Eugene in 1947 and they were married April 13, 1954. She attended and graduated from Hanna High School in Hanna.

Preceding her in death was: her parents; son; grandsons; two brothers and one sister.

Survivors include: her husband, Eugene Thomas of the home; four children, Elizabeth Thomas and Eugene Thomas, Jr. both of Okmulgee, Cindy Thomas-Roberson of Pasadena, Texas and Gilbert Thomas of Oklee, Minnesota; brother, Monroe Lasley of Kansas City, Missouri; step-brother, Thompson Gouge; two step-sister, Missy Mitchell and Wynetta Gouge; 11 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers were: Robert Solomon, Billy James (B.J.) and Billy Hill, Jeremiah (Jerry), Jimmie and Milton Lasley.

Interment was at Weogufkee Cemetery.

JOANNA VOICE

EUFULA — Funeral services for Joanna Belle Frank Voice were held September 18 at West Eufaula Indian Baptist Church with Reverend Houston Tiger officiating.

She was born July 21, 1920 in Eufaula to Louis and Ethel Scott Frank.

Joanna graduated from Eufaula High School in 1938. She attended Bacone College.

On August 18, 1947, she married William Eddie Voice in San Francisco, California.

Voice was a homemaker and of the Bear clan. She enjoyed singing and listening to Mvskoke Hymns, watch birds, and reading.

Preceding her in death was: her parents; four brothers, Navy Frank, Luke, Red Eagle and Yahola McIntosh; son, Ernest Eddie Voice; grandson, Micah; two great-grandsons and one great-great grandson.

Survivors include: Sherry Voice Williams, Kay Voice Roubidoux and Danielle Voice, all of Tulsa, Sally Voice of Stringtown, Toni Voice Hitcher and Shannon Voice, both of Dallas, Texas, Nancy Voice Spain of Konawa, Esther Voice Carr of Laguna, New Mexico; brother, Cornelius McIntosh of Oklahoma City; step-sister, Ethel McIntosh Pittman of Louisiana; 28 grandchildren and numerous great grandchildren.



Voice

nephews and nieces.

Pallbearers were: William Spain; Troy Gonzales; Kerry Voice; Jason Jim; Zachary Williams and John Franklin Hearell.

Honorary pallbearer was Gary Jim. Interment was at the McIntosh/Grayson Cemetery in Eufaula.

GRATITUDE

On behalf of Addie George, the family would like to thank all those who made monetary contributions, food donations, prayers and support to the family in their time of need and mourning. Aho. Addie George family

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The Hot Corner

by Jason Salsman

Well, we’ve reached the month of October and that means a few things. State fairs, Halloween candy and the greatest rivalry in all of sports, The Red River War. Each year on the first weekend in October Sooner and Longhorn fans alike make the pilgrimage to Dallas’ Cotton Bowl to watch the two teams pound on one another for three hours. It really is an amazing spectacle and for those that have been, it is an unforgettable experience win or lose. The stadium is nestled in the middle of the State Fair of Texas and is divided in half at the 50 yard line with the Oklahoma fans to the south and Texas to the north. I could go on and on about how great the experience is, but I’ll do you one better. I made my annual trip down for the game and decided to keep a diary of the journey for my faithful Hot Corner readers.

Friday Afternoon, Oct. 6
So after a couple delays we finally leave Oklahoma City and head south on I-35. The trip down is one of the most underrated facets of the whole weekend. Nobody really pays attention to the journey, it’s just the end result they are so focused on, but this is no ordinary stroll to Big D. The best way to describe the scene is a traveling OU pep rally. This is no exaggeration, almost every single car has OU window flags. Fans honk at one another, flash the upside down Hook ‘em Horns sign and basically have a great time. We are no different but probably the funniest part for us was heckling the poor Texas fan that happened to be in our path.

Game day, Oct. 7, Noon
Twelve o’ clock Saturday finds us entering the gates to the State Fair of Texas, and what a scene it is. The best thing about it is that everything about the fair reminds you that you are there for the biggest game of the year and you have FINALLY arrived! Big Tex greets you with a “Howdy Folks,” the smell of corn dogs and funnel cakes takes you off your feet like a cartoon character and taking one look at the concession stand menus let’s you know that EVERYTHING can be deep fried. But, I’ve finally had my fill of the fair, literally. It’s time to go to the game, and I have weaved my way through a sea of football fans to the entrance of the cozy, old-school home to this storied rivalry; the Cotton Bowl. There has been talk of moving the game away from this venue, and I think that would be a sin. Like Wrigley Field or Fenway Park, this place has history and you don’t mess with that. We are in our seats and there is a butterfly convention in my stomach. The OU band is playing “Oklahoma” and your heart swells with pride when the band comes toward the south end zone blaring “Boomer Sooner.” A slow rumble turns to a deafening roar as the Longhorns take the field. Right behind them are the Sooners, the gloves are off and we’re ready for a fight. It’s kickoff time!

Halftime, OU 10 UT 7
The first half goes pretty well even though the OU defense seems to have more holes than a piece of swiss cheese. Offensively, it seems the Sooners will be able to have success, but have been fumbling. Still, we are up and the Sooner Nation is feeling cautiously optimistic. We’ll just have to see if we can build on the momentum going into the second half.

Game Over UT 28 OU 10
Ok, turns out I was right with my assessment of the defense. Let’s be honest folks, it’s Monday and Texas receivers are still open. I don’t want to come down completely on the defense, because no offense can give the ball away five times and expect to beat a team like Texas. Sitting there in the closing minutes of the game I had a rather unpleasant revelation. As I took everything in, I began to realize that those fans with so much joy in the north end zone used to be us. Bob Stoops and Co. used to own the Cotton Bowl. Now they had just been whipped for the second straight year. When did it all go wrong?

Creek Girl works for NBA’s Orlando Magic

Nicole Been leads Professional Sports Franchise team in helping community

By Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

ORLANDO — From the time that Nicole Been was growing up in Okemah, Oklahoma she knew that sports would play a big part of her life. After finishing High School at Schuler, the young Muscogee (Creek) lady would earn a basketball scholarship to Bacone College in Muskogee. Been continued at Oklahoma State University and became a trainer in the athletic department. Her hard work and dedication paid off as Been was elevated to manage events and facilities on the OSU campus. “That was really cool,” states Been when looking back to her time in Stillwater, “I got a chance to help set up the College Gameday Football show on ESPN and we helped launch the ESPNU network.”

From there Been would move to Waco, Texas and become a graduate assistant at Baylor University for the Women’s Basketball Program. After completing at Baylor, Been applied for an internship for the Orlando Magic of the National Basketball Association (NBA).

“I didn’t get the internship I applied for,” says Been, “but that

was alright because the community relations manager wanted me to apply for her position and I did. That’s the position I’m at now and I’m loving it.”

As Community Relations Manager, Been is in charge of donation programs such as ticket programs that donate to non-profit organizations. Been also helps coordinate the NBA Cares Program which involves ‘Read to Achieve’ among area youth. Developing after school programs is also a part of the agenda.

The Magic also recognize ‘Hispanic Awareness Month’ and are



planning to reach out to the Native American population. “I am really pushing for the Magic organization to celebrate the American Indian heritage,” siad Been. “We go all out for the other minorities and I want to see that for our culture as well.”

Creek Boy hoping to make it to the Major Leagues

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

BURBANK — Cale Hamilton, a Junior at John Burroughs High School in Burbank, California will begin playing on the San Diego Padres scout team this September. Hamilton has been the starting Shortstop since his Sophomore year on the JBHS Indians Varsity team, and recently returned from playing in a Junior Olympics tournament in Jupiter, Florida.

Last month, Hamilton was invited to participate in a baseball showcase at Moorpark College.

The event draws baseball scouts not only from the Major Leagues, but from Universities and Colleges across the country. The scouts are able to get a look at a new crop of prospects signing many to scholarships and extending invitations to other baseball camps

and games.

Hamilton is listed at 5’9 and 145 pounds, his teammates could easily call him ‘slim’ if they wanted to. But with such a wiry frame, Hamilton is just hoping that he grows into his size 13 cleats. Like all serious athletes his age, Hamilton is also hoping that his credentials make him a more attractive prospect for a Division I Baseball Scholarship Program. Hamilton is also dedicated to the classroom where he consistently maintains a 3.0 grade

average. That dedication also stems from his Father’s decision not to let Hamilton play unless he maintains the grade average.

But Hamilton’s Dad knows how much his son really loves the game of baseball, and therefore, motivating



Pro Baseball prospect Cale Hamilton.

hasn’t really been a problem. “Since he was able to crawl he was picking up baseballs, says his Father proudly. “Swinging bats and we (Mom) that’s what he was probably going to end up doing.”

His Father says that Hamilton’s consistent playing keeps his son on the road a lot. “He’s playing right now nine weeks straight,” explains his Father. “He just got back from a tournament in Las Vegas where he played against scout teams from the Colorado Rockies and St. Louis Cardinals.”

According to reports, Hamilton’s team in High School plays in one of the toughest divisions in the country, the Foothill Division of the CIF.

The tough task of playing in an elite league has really helped Hamilton in drawing attention to his talent on

4 Love of the Game to hit newsstands mid-October

by Lucas Taylor
4 Love of the Game Chairman

HENRYETTA — If you are out there right now reading this article you are probably frustrated, confused, wondering when the first issue of 4 Love of the Game sports magazine will be released. With any project that’s new, there is always some unforeseen factors that influence its completion. Finally, everything has been worked out and the first issue is scheduled for release on Oct 16,

As stated last month by Jason Salsman, the magazine will pay homage to some of the local athletes that have achieved notoriety in this region. The cover of the October issue will feature Tahlequah Sequoyah phenom Angel Goodrich, the top girl’s basketball player in the state according to CoachesAid.com. In addition, there will also be a feature story on Vian’s Vfastv Locust, a Creek Indian who holds the state record for touchdowns in a single season. The magazine will not forget the past, highlighting each month accomplishments from the many Indian athletes that have become legends to those that recognize their efforts.

If you know an outstanding Native American athlete let us know. For more information, you can contact me at (918) 732-7634 or after 5 p.m. at (918) 650-3920 or by e-mail at: lvmhe4@yahoo.com.

the diamond. Which in turn has helped the young Muscogee (Creek) athlete very appealing to Major League clubs such as the Padres. Hamilton’s Father explains how the Padres interest in his son came about. “Were playing a double header with a team that had a few high profile pitchers,” explains his Father. “These pitchers threw in the low 90’s and the scouts were there to see them. They ended up being impressed with Cale’s defense and invited him to join the San Diego scout team.

Hamilton’s family takes great pride in his Muscogee roots. He is the great-grandson of Loney (Bunny) Bruner, grandson of Betty (Bruner) Bruton, and son of Leon (Lonnie) Hamilton.

“We’re so proud of him,” says his Father.



Cale Hamilton (number 5) bats for his High School Baseball Team

Former Sooner QB hopes to bring camp to Creek country

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

OKEMAH — Josh Heupel came from a small junior college in Utah to lead the 2000 Oklahoma Sooners to a national championship and finish as runner-up for the Heisman trophy. For that, he will always be remembered and revered by the Sooner faithful. Those accomplishments were out in the open, in the public eye. His behind-the-scenes work, however, is probably his most important.

During the football season Josh is a busy man. He has transferred his successful playing career into a coaching profession. After a stop at the University of Arizona as a tight ends coach he is back in Oklahoma coaching who else, the quarterbacks. In the off-season he does not get any breaks as he keeps a full schedule. Along with his father, Ken, he started the 14

Foundation, a non-profit organization that gives back to the community. The foundation is involved in sev-



eral charities and every year holds a holiday food drive at the final Sooner home game. They also run the “Day of Champions” Football Camp. The three day camp is offered to kids age 8-14,

and focuses on teaching the principles of successful leadership by setting the discipline, then establishing respect, trust and hard work.

The camp does not lack for a full stable of stars and some of Heupel’s former Sooner teammates join in for motivational speaking. Among those who regularly speak at Heupel’s camps are NFL linebacker and MVP of the Orange Bowl championship game, Torrance Marshall, as well as Heisman Trophy winner Jason White.

Last week in Okemah, 4 Love of the Game organization met with Ken Heupel to find out more on the camp and how to bring it to the Native American youth. “That’s one thing Coach (Ken) Heupel said to us,” said Lucas Taylor. “He said Josh really wants to reach out to the Native Ameri-

can kids. We’re excited about that and want to make this happen.”

One of the highlights of the camp is Fantasy Day, where parents team up with campers for competitions with other teams. It’s a fun chance for parents to get involved. “Fantasy Day is a chance for parents and kids to build on their relationships,” said Heupel.

Scheduling and timing have to be right, but members of both parties are confident and dedicated to bringing this camp to Creek country. “We really are pushing for this to be around July 4 weekend,” said Taylor. “This would be such an amazing experience for our youth, not just for the invaluable experience they will take away from it, but just to see all those top notch athletes there investing time in their development.”

The organization hopes to bring the camp in early July. Updates on the progress of this project will be in the Muscogee Nation News in the coming months.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Should they do away with instant replay in college football?



Well, the title of this column says it and I embrace it, I am indeed old school and I say that we don’t need instant replay in college football and there are a few reasons why. First, it doesn’t work because calls are still blown every Saturday. Secondly, I believe that officials

for the most part have done well over the years using their instincts to make the calls. Now, they don’t make calls knowing that any question can be answered while waiting for a word from the booth, and that slows the game down. Just keep it old school.



Even though I think it doesn’t work at all right now, I think that instant replay should definitely be kept in the college game. The idea is that nothing now will be left to human error in the game. I wouldn’t chastise an official for missing

a call on the field because I understand that its hard to see everything , so with replay it SHOULD take those mistakes out of the picture. The question is, do we have honorable officials keeping an eye on the monitors?



Featured artist:
Clary James

Larry Oliver
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Section C, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

October 2006

Brother and Sister Musicians creating Native Hip Hop Documentary

TULSA-Brian Freejo and his sister, Happy, have been in the hip hop business for quite some time, recently the family pair, along with other performers with names like Circa 360, Jabee (Little Earth), and MC Hostile performed in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the club 1974 on July 3.

The talented group came together and have created 'Culture Shock Camp'. The camp is currently on the 'Longevity Tour' and spreading their message of hope and good native vibes across the United States. The Freejos say the group was destined to unite and grow together as a family, as well. Culture Shock also says it is their goal to embrace native culture and hip hop culture. Not only on stage but in their daily walk and through the music. "We're not just trying to throw parties or just shows," explains Brian. "We want to do something that says a lot about who we are through our music, not just the hip hop music, but about our culture."

Culture Shock also mixes in some other musical forms as well. "I would say its an urban, hip hop, jazzy style," says Happy, who also mentions the music can be a little "folksy" with her performance on the guitar as well. Happy does more of the traditional singing, while Brian creates the hip hop sound, and is also known as 'DJ Shock B.' Younger brother Keith also joins the group to bring a unique classic sound.

The Freejos are also involved in filmmaking in helping spread a positive message. Happy just completed a documentary called 'My Darkest Hour'. The film deals with suicide and some struggles the female musician faced while deciding to make life choices.

Culture Shock is producing a documentary about the Native Hip Hop culture. The film titled 'Native Souls' and hope to have the project completed by the fall. "It's about our music, a little bit about what we're doing,, our movement and our message," says Brian. "Our mes-



Brian Freejo , (foreground) and sister Happy perform at club 1974 in Tulsa. The Freejos are documenting the native hip hop scene and its impact on American Indian society. The Freejos hope to have the documentary completed by the fall.

sage to our Indian youth and to our peers is something positive, that maybe they think about when they leave here."

Culture Shock hopes to reach Native American youth especially, and are available to perform at schools and

events. For more information, log onto the web site at www.myspace.com/cultureshockcamp.

Nightwolf launches Native Television

By DIONNE WALKER | Associated Press

RICHMOND, Virginia (AP) - Flipping through TV channels, Jay Winter Nightwolf noticed something: While blacks, Latinos and other minority groups had niche cable networks, American Indians had no national TV outlet for their issues _ everything from tribal sovereignty to language preservation. The Washington-area radio personality has joined a group of Virginia broadcast journalists and other media professionals to launch Native American Television, joining a handful of groups racing to establish the United States' first American Indian cable channel. NATV, which the group hopes to launch by year's end, will feature programming aimed at the nation's indigenous tribes: News specials and cooking shows, films and historic documentaries, video of drumming, powwows and even stand up comedy. A program tentatively titled "Meet Native America" would mirror NBC's "Meet the Press," bringing together a panel of Indian journalists to interview Washington D.C. lawmakers. "Talk to Native America" would explore issues like economic development in Indian country, Nightwolf said.

"It's gonna run the full gamut," said Nightwolf, a Cherokee Indian and weekly host of "The Nightwolf Show." "We can see the culture, the history, the issues, the everyday life _ the smiles and the frowns _ of Native Americans." While a handful of tribes have set up regional channels in the past, a cable network would be a first, according to a spokeswoman at Native American Public Telecommunications. At least two others have not gotten past the planning stages. Indian Country Today on TV would be a televised version of the popular Indian newspaper by a similar name. The New Mexico-based Native American Television Network includes reality TV and talk shows on its proposed lineup. American Indians in Film and Television estimates that of 41,000 acting roles cast in 2004, roughly 100 were filled by Indians. NATV was founded in 1990 by the late Charles Kaster, a Washington-area freelance videographer, said Randy Flood, executive director of NATV. Using his basement as a studio, Kaster trained Indian youth for careers at broadcast stations and someday, at his all-Indian channel, Flood said. Kaster died of cancer in 2002, before he could expand his training program and begin broadcasting. Flood estimates it will take \$3.7 million to launch the channel, money he will raise through tribal sponsorship and federal grants. "BET has its own network and Univision appeals to Latinos (but) there's nothing for Native Americans," said Flood, who, like Kaster, is not an Indian. "We want to be able to create a vehicle for tribal communities."

But breaking into the cable market is easier said than done, said John Mansell, a Fairfax analyst with Kagan media research firm. Creators of Black Entertainment Television and the Latin-infused Univision _ cornerstones of the ethnic channel market _ both entered during the '70s and '80s, while the industry was young, Mansell said. Now the market is saturated, and cable companies are wary of adding a channel unless it is a sure hit, he said. "How many new subscribers is a cable operator going to get by putting out a small niche Indian channel?" Mansell said. "These are questions that the cable operators consider." Flood hopes to give his company a leg up with a built-in staff of reporters. Each year, about 30 students aged 18 to 24 will spend eight weeks training in studio production, web development and journalism as part of NATV's Washington Semester program. "The goal is to set up a cable TV network that addresses all Native American issues _ but also to train our own reporters and our own editors," said William Butler, president of the Columbia School of Broadcasting, which will provide the program's curriculum. "It's a long way down the road."

Nightwolf Joins NATV Team

Jay Winter Nightwolf, Host and Executive Producer of the "Nightwolf Show" has joined the NATV management team as News Director and Chief of Television and Radio Program Production. Featured every Sunday evening between 8:00 and 9:00 PM EST on WPFW (www.wpfw.org) 89.3 FM in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan and Mid-Atlantic areas, the Nightwolf Show discusses Native American Indian heritage, culture, issues and entertainment throughout Indian Country and to radio and Internet listeners throughout the world. Receiving an overwhelming amount of emails from all over Indian Country, America, Europe and Australia, Nightwolf literally interviews guests from all over the world. His guests have included the late Vine Deloria; George Nuku, a tribal leader of the Maori people of New Zealand; Robert Mirabal, noted Native American recording artist; Dr. Jack D. Forbes professor emeritus (retired) of the University of California at Davis; Doug George-Kanentiio, noted international Mohawk journalist; David Lozell Martin and Roger Di Silvestro, accomplished American editors and authors; Dr. Leo Noland with the U. S. Indian Health Service; Washington Attorney Greg Smith; students from the American University's WINS program; college and university presidents and professors; and Native American Indian tribal leaders, among others.

Washington Semester Multimedia Curriculum Is Cornerstone Of Training

Originally founded as a news gathering organization to report news about Native America and to train Native American Indian students in television programming, NATV's Washington Semester technology training program is the educational cornerstone of building a nationwide network of reporters throughout rural and urban tribal communities. Offering technology training instruction courses in Digital Studio Production

and Web Development to compliment educational courses in Journalism and Governmental Awareness, NATV is beginning to lay the foundation for such an effort. The technology training portions of the program are being developed by Professor Larry L. Adams II, NATV's Director for Web Operations and Technology Training. "The Internet has changed everything. It simply makes good sense for students today to have basic

technology skills in web design, web maintenance and information security if they are interested in pursuing a career in journalism or any other business," says Professor Adams. "We have the in-house capability and expertise to provide the technology skills that will enable Native American students to become more competitive in a global job market—and our certification program is second to none" he says.

13-Part Television Series Showcases Unique American Indian Cultures

FARGO, North Dakota — Production schedules have been set for Indian Pride, a 13-part cultural magazine to be aired on PBS stations in February 2007. Indian Pride will spotlight the diverse cultures of American Indian people throughout the country. Prairie Public Television of Fargo, North Dakota will produce the weekly magazine in cooperation with Circle of Nations Publishing of Grand Forks, North Dakota.

"This unprecedented series is the first venture of its kind to be produced for a mass United States audience, stated Bob Dambach of Prairie Public Television. "Previous attempts to tell the story of American Indian culture have been limited to one or two-part episodes that have only been able to provide a small glimpse of the rich history and culture of our Native peoples. We are very pleased to partner with JuniKae Randall of Circle of Nations Publishing to bring this historic event to the American public. As host for the magazine, JuniKae will bring an in-depth and personal perspective to the stories we tell."

The 13-week magazine will focus on a specific theme each week that will be of interest to all people. Future programs will highlight Indian Treaties and Sovereignty, Spirituality, Health and Healing, Culture and Celebrations, as well as the coverage of critical issues of government, economic development, politics and education.

Each 30-minute episode will include three distinct segments: mini-documentaries shot on location at events held on reservations and around other parts of Indian country; in-studio segments featuring discussion of current issues by nationally-known American Indian guests; and original and cultural performances featuring traditional and

contemporary artists, as well as storytellers.

Indian Pride is the vision of JuniKae Randall, founding director of Circle of Nations Publishing. Randall is a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa and grew up on the reservation shortly after high school to follow her dreams. That journey led

via a website so teachers could share the knowledge with their students. Indian Pride was the natural title for this idea."

The development and production of Indian Pride is a major undertaking on behalf of several prominent members of the American Indian community throughout the country.

Harold "Gus" Frank is the Chairman of the Forest County Potawatomi

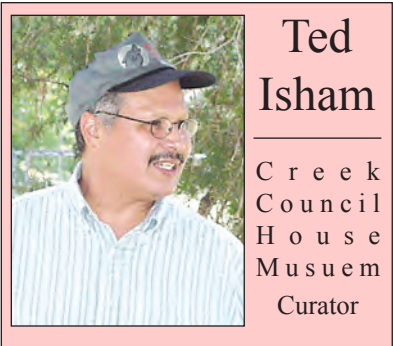
of Wisconsin. Frank has been selected to serve as Board Chairman of the Indian Pride Advisory Board. "The Indian Pride TV Series is a great opportunity for Indians, Native Americans, and Indigenous people to tell in their words why and how we got to be where we are today. With JuniKae's vision, Prairie Public Television can use the media to share our history with the world," stated Frank.

The Honorary Chairman of the Advisory Board, Chief Earl Old Person, Chief of the Blackfeet Nation, welcomes this broadcast opportunity because "... It is education and communication that builds bridges, open hearts and creates greater harmony among people. As American Indians, we are known for our strong value of sharing. It is a good time to share our beautiful culture from every corner of Indian Country with the world."

Production schedules and locations along with more information on topics and guests will be announced within the next few months. The program will reach out to a number of reservations and tribes throughout the country as the segments are shot and produced for broadcast this winter. Indian Pride will be distributed to PBS television stations nationwide through NETA. The world premiere of the 13-week series is scheduled for February 3, 2007. Contact your local PBS station for broadcast dates and times.



Este Mvskokvlke Today



Ted Isham

Creek Council House Museum Curator

submitted by Ted Isham, Creek Council House Museum Curator

In previous articles we've talked about preserving artifacts and language. Much of our culture is less tangible than physical articles, and is based on nature. For example, we *Este Mvskokvlke*, have observed the special timing of the rising and the setting sun. Our religious ceremonies that we have today (Christian also, but mostly the traditional) mark important events according to where the sun rises in its yearly journey from the southern easterly point on the horizon to the most northern point of the eastern horizon. It is this underlying concept of a deep-rooted tradition of seasonal cycles that is the basis of our culture as Creek people. We begin by asking these questions; what is the basis of our culture, how is this cultural knowledge being eroded by the modern western culture and how does this relate to the tenets of museum work?

As stated above, the placement of the sun along the horizon is very important to the timing of our ceremonial cycle. The objects

of the sky are important and their behavior is closely watched. The cycles of the sun are known to control the seasons, which in turn gives us plants that help sustain us with food and also our traditional medicines. As we go from the time when we begin to gather together during the vernal equinox time, to the high time of Green Corn (*Vce lane emposketv*) during the mid summer of the solstice, and to the east/west match games during the autumnal equinox, we become in-synch with the natural world.

Being in accord with this solar cycle is our greatest achievement and allows us to live in harmony with nature. In early times, we were able to model our religion and government on these observations, which gave us great stability and power as a nation or collective group we called a confederacy. A confederacy is the purest form of democracy, a lesson not lost to the colonists of early America. As some aspects of this style of government are modeled from the two great confederacies in the east, we see that the "Great experiment" of

American democracy is still going on in the US government. For us Creeks, the ability to live in harmony is the greatest attribute for which to strive. We have been in co-existence with many different groups of people for many years, as seen from the basic ideas of the confederacy. The incorporation of different groups surrounding us while, at the same time, encouraging individual cultural identities is a hallmark of the Creek Confederacy and is still seen today to a lesser extent. When the Spanish, the French, the Scottish, and the English colonists came

to us, we were inviting and accepting but that quickly changed when instead of co-existence and harmony, for the most part all we got was strife and conflict. We were/and are still able to fend off this change in balance, but our resolve is steadily being eroded away. It is important for us to be able to maintain the teachings and findings of our ancestors. The teachings and findings that helped maintain balance and harmony in all aspects of their lives can do/is doing the same for us today if we look for and practice it. This level of stability only comes from observing and following the clues and lessons from nature. When we begin to lose track of our cultural knowledge, we as a people begin to be less vibrant and stable as the forces from all around us creep in and get us off the balance of the natural world. Two facets of Creek world view were explored here, the seasonal cycles of the sun and the incorporation of groups brings us to see how we can maintain our balance as a people.

This is all to bring us to this point, that like museums and schools, the perpetuation of our cultural knowledge is but one way to insure that our stories, songs, ideals, and language are preserved and saved for the future generations of Creek people. As we begin to forget more and more the ways and teachings of our ancestors, we become less and less balanced as a people. We then begin to see the effects of this in our physical health, our mental health, and in the increased strife we're experiencing. We need to be on the offensive, we need to be proactive and we need to be thinking about our future.

Some of the underlying sug-

gestions being made in this article may be uncomfortable to some of our more traditional culture

bearers and leaders, but if we take the knowledge of our ancestors to the grave without passing that information along, we surely will

encourage irreparable damage to come to our progeny. It is imperative that we find ways to get ourselves back in harmony and balance if we are to survive in a modern world that has little use and respect for nature. In the past several prophets and wisdom bearers have come and given us the very same or similar message—the message of keeping close to the ways of our elders. The Shawnee and Creek-Cherokee, Tecumseh and his brother 'the prophet' in 1811 at *Tvkvptvce* and in the early 1900's with Chitto Harjo and his band of 'Snakes' at *OceOpofv* gave us the message of preserving and keeping to the old ways. We can make use of that message today as another hundred years has passed. We then ask this question, 'What will take us through the 21st century to be able to embrace the 22nd century and beyond?' *Mvtekosan makaranis ci!*



was strife and conflict. We were/and are still able to fend off this change in balance, but our resolve is steadily being eroded away. It is important for us to be able to maintain the teachings and findings of our ancestors. The teachings and findings that helped maintain balance and harmony in all aspects of their lives can do/is doing the same for us today if we look for and prac-

Council House Upcoming Events

submitted by David Anderson, Creek Council House

submitted by David Anderson, Creek Council House

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Office of Cultural and Historical Preservation and the Creek Council House Museum are pleased to announce the following two series of Arts Classes for this fall. The first series of classes will be for children who want to learn how to make baskets, pottery, and bead work. The second series of classes is for adults wanting to learn basketry and pottery. These series of classes are also made possible with the assistance from the Oklahoma Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts. It is our intent not only to bring classes to the public in a class room setting but, also to have the classes online.

To this end, the adult classes will be videotaped and then playback will take place over the internet via a series of

'streaming' videos.

We will be documenting the processes of creating the art forms of basketry and pottery. The result of which will be a capturing of the methods and processes of the uniquely Creek style of basket rim, called the double false braid rim. The double false braid rim has been lost to us modern Creeks, it is estimated for around 100 years now.

Once very common, this style of rim made the trek from our homelands in the East to here in Indian Territory. It is thought that after statehood and the allotments, the

rim style disappeared from use, along with the main source of materials, river cane. The need



Students work on various projects during classes at the Council House Museum.

to teach this style and to document the process for future use is the mission of the Creek Nation's Office of Cultural Preservation and the Creek Council House

Museum. If we all take it upon ourselves to do what we can to help preserve our traditions for our descendents, this type of basketry may never again be lost. Mary Smith, the basketry instructor said, "I feel fortunate to be able to work with my fellow tribal members to preserve this uniquely Creek basket making style."

Again, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Office of Cultural Preservation and the Creek Council House Museum are pleased to host this round of fall arts classes beginning with a three class series of children's classes and continuing with a series of adult

classes. Each class will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Creek Council House. The adult classes will have a potluck lunch, with each person bringing their favorite dish, and the kids classes will have lunch and snacks provided. The schedule of classes will be:

Adult Classes: Pottery - Oct 21, Pottery - Oct. 28, Youth Classes: Basketry - Nov. 4, Pottery - Nov 11, Bead work - Nov. 18, Adult Classes: Basketry - Dec. 9, Basketry: Dec. 16.

The classes are free of charge but, space is limited. Students will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information and to sign up, call the museum at (918) 756-2324.

If you would like to advertise your upcoming art show e-mail your information to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

Featured Artist

by Greg James

Clary James, Nere A-yo (Nighthawk), was recently selected as the Bacone College Outstanding Student in Art for 2005-06. She was nominated to submit works to the Red Cloud Heritage and Museum Center's juried art competition this summer. Her first sale, a watercolor entitled *Dreams of Him*, occurred at this show sponsored by the Center and the Oglala Lakota (Sioux) Nation.



James

Now a sophomore at Bacone, Clary was named to the President's Honor Roll twice after earning a 4.0 GPA for the fall and spring semesters of her freshman year. She was selected for membership in *Phi Theta Kappa*, an International Honor Society. Her 4.0 for both semesters also qualifies Clary for recognition as a collegiate "Schol-

ar-Athlete" by the National Fast pitch Coaches Association, to be announced in October 2006. She is working towards an Associate degree in Art and an Associate degree in Native American Studies.

While taking an Art History course under Professor Kevin Smith, Assistant Dean of Arts at Bacone and past education curator at the Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa, Clary discovered that Professor Smith has been designing a Museum Studies degree now that Bacone College is fully accredited as a four year institution. If approved by the faculty and Board of Trustees, the addition of the Museum Studies degree program would make Bacone one of only a handful of colleges offering the degree at the undergraduate level. Clary hopes to be one of the first to

earn a Bachelor in Arts, Museum Studies from Bacone College.

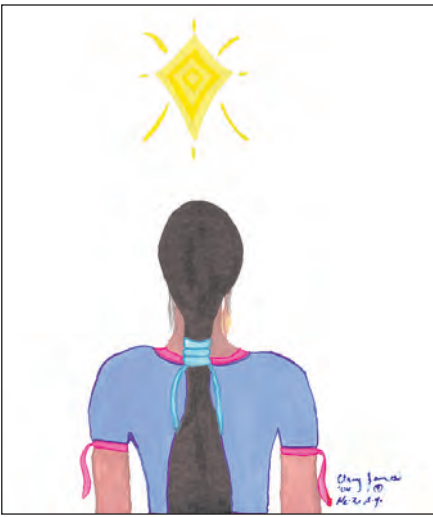
Studying under Professor Ruthe Blalock Jones, Chu-Lundit, a noted Shawnee/Delaware/Peoria artist, has not only helped teach Clary new skills, but has helped Clary re-discover a link with the art of her great-great grandmother, Muscogee folk artist Irene Gibson Hall of Eufaula. Clary's watercolor *Old Man Buffalo II* was inspired by the skull fetiches painted by Hall. Prof. Jones, widely recognized for her amazingly accurate paintings of tribal ceremonies that also capture the spirit of the people, was a protégé of Dick West, Cheyenne painter and sculptor, who also taught at Bacone. Both Smith and Jones have also helped Clary to widen her artistic horizons by introducing the young artist to other Native American

artists from all across the nation.

For the upcoming academic year, Clary will continue to work in watercolors and pen/ink, but will also learn bronze casting and silversmithing.

In addition to the demands of her full-time academic schedule and her artwork, Clary stays busy as a member of the Bacone College Warriors Varsity Softball team. She earned her varsity letter for the 2005-06 season. She was also a member of a US All-Star softball team that won the Gold Medal at an International Tournament in Holland during August of 2005.

Clary is a 2005 graduate of Putnam City West High School, Oklahoma City. During her senior year of high school, she was selected by the faculty and district administration to serve



Still Seeking Him



Old Man Buffalo II

a mentorship under Mr. Bill Welge, Director of the Archives, Oklahoma Historical Society. She spent the semester cataloging and preserving records of the Dawes Commission's work in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation 1890-1908. In addition to her tribal ancestry, Clary is a descendant of Col. William H. Garrett, US Indian Agent to the Creek Nation 1853-1861 and Confederate States Indian Agent to the Creek Nation 1861-1864.

Clary is the daughter of Greg and Penny James of Bethany. She is the granddaughter of the late Phyllis Warren James and the great-granddaughter of the late Eloise Hall Warren.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION

LARRY L. OLIVER)
Plaintiff.)
)
v.) Case No. SC 2006-04
)
MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION)
NATIONAL COUNCIL)
Defendant.)
)
CHIEF JUSTICE DENETTE MOUSER, VICE-CHIEF
JUSTICE GEORGE ALMERIGI,
JUSTICE HOUSTON SHIRLEY AND JUSTICE AMOS
McNAC CONCURRING. JUSTICE
JONODEV CHAUDHURI NOT PARTICIPATING.

Attorney for the Plaintiff:
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Attorney for the Defendant:
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Attorney at Law
715 Kiheka Ave
Post Office Box 1049
Pawhuska, Oklahoma 74056

OPINION

Mvskokvlke Fvtceevk Cuko Hylvat Vkerickv hvyakat oketv vkhvk
hakaten acakkayen momen entenfvteetv, hvtyvm Mvskoke Etylvvlke telike
vhakv empytkv.

The above captioned case came on for Oral Arguments on the 30th day of May, 2006 with further Oral Arguments before this Court on June 20, 2006. Plaintiff, Larry Oliver appeared in person and by and through his Counsel of Record, John Ghostbear. Defendant Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council (hereinafter “National Council”) appeared by and through its Counsel of Record, Geoffrey Standing Bear and was further represented by Speaker George Tiger at the May 30, 2006 Oral Arguments and National Council Representative Thomas Pickering at the June 20, 2006 Oral Arguments.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE

The Plaintiff filed a petition for declaratory judgement and injunctive relief with this Court on May 25, 2006. The Plaintiff asked this Court to declare the actions taken by the National Council’s Business & Government Committee on April 25, 2006 in regard to his reappointment to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court a violation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution and therefore void. In the alternative, the Plaintiff asked the Court to issue a Writ of Prohibition preventing the National Council from relying upon the vote of the April 25, 2006 Planning Session declining to reappoint Plaintiff to a second term on the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court. Further, Plaintiff’s petition requested a temporary restraining order, a preliminary injunction and a permanent injunction requiring the National Council to consider Plaintiff’s nomination in accordance with the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Plaintiff, Larry Oliver, was duly appointed by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis to serve a second six-year term as a Justice of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court. The appointment was made by letter from the Office of the Principal Chief to the National Council on or about March 22, 2006, ninety days prior to the end of Plaintiff’s current term of office. Per testimony at Oral Arguments, the appointment letter was received and file stamped on or about March 28, 2006 by legislative research specialists Christy Harjo. (5/30/06 Tr. 83:22-23). Judicial nominations are to be appointed by the Principal Chief, subject to the majority approval of the National Council. (See: Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, Art. II§2).

The appointment was referred by the Speaker of the National Council to the Business & Government Committee. On the afternoon of April 24, 2006 the Creek Nation Supreme Court Clerk contacted Plaintiff by phone at his Tulsa law practice and advised Plaintiff that the Business & Government Committee had just requested a meeting with Plaintiff at the National Council offices in Okmulgee later that evening. (5/30/06 Tr. 53:6-10). Mr. Oliver appeared before the Business & Government Committee as requested. The Business & Government Committee Chairman, Roger Barnett, asked if anyone had any questions. No questions in regard to Mr. Oliver’s nomination were addressed to Mr. Oliver by Chairman Barnett or any other Business & Government Committee member. A motion was made to approve the nomination and the motion was rejected by a vote of three to two (3-2). (5/30/06 Tr. 27:19-22, and 53:2-16).

On April 25, 2006 at approximately 4:20 p.m., the Supreme Court clerk notified Plaintiff that the Speaker of the National Council had just requested him to be at the National Council Planning Session meeting that same evening. (5/30/06 Tr. 53:15-17.)² No further direct testimony with regard to the events leading up to this litigation was obtained from Oral Arguments, however Plaintiff’s petition, alleges the Plaintiff Oliver appeared at the April 25th meeting only to learn that he was not on the agenda, and he prepared to leave. (Plaintiff’s Petition for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief, Pg. 2-3). Plaintiff Oliver, however, was requested to return to the meeting room. Once inside the room, Plaintiff Oliver was asked to stand before the Speaker and tell the Council about himself. However, it is alleged in Plaintiff’s Petition that he was cut short, and the Speaker asked if any Council member present had any questions. Plaintiff alleges that verbal confrontations with members of the National Council occurred. The Speaker then told Plaintiff that he would advise the Plaintiff of the Council’s decision before the Saturday, April 29, 2006 regularly scheduled monthly National Council occurred. (Id.). The following morning the Speaker advised the Supreme Court Clerk that the National Council, in its Planning Session, voted to let the decision of the Business & Government Committee stand. The Speaker advised the Supreme Court Clerk that it would not be necessary for Plaintiff Oliver to appear at the National Council’s regularly scheduled monthly meeting on Saturday, April 29, 2006. (Id at Pg. 4)

Initially a Temporary Restraining Order was issued by this Court in the matter on May 26, 2006, pending a hearing May 30, 2006, at which hearing the Supreme Court heard arguments in this matter. Ruling from the bench at Oral Argument, the Court denied Defendant’s Motion to Dissolve the Temporary Restraining Order and Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss for Lack of meeting of the full National Council. The purpose of the Planning Session meeting is to receive committee reports, and to set the agenda (determining the proposed legislation, nominations, resolutions, and other legislative enactments on which to vote) for the next regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the full National Council.

²A Planning Session is a meeting held by the National Council members prior to a regularly scheduled monthly

Original Jurisdiction or Failure to State a Claim upon which Relief May be Granted. In a Minute Order issued June 7, 2006, the Court also denied Plaintiff’s Motion for a Preliminary Injunction and vacated the Temporary Restraining Order. Having heard and reviewed the testimony of witnesses, the agreement and stipulations of the parties, the Oral Argument transcripts, and all the pleadings and proffered case law:

IT IS THEREFORE THE OPINION AND ORDER OF THIS COURT THAT:

I. This Court is the proper Court to hear this case.

The Court assumed original jurisdiction in the case because of the constitutional questions raised by the Plaintiff. This Court has continually held that: “When there is a question as to whether the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution has been followed in legislative or Executive actions, this Court has jurisdiction to interpret those actions in light of the Nation’s Constitution.” *Alexander v. Gouge & Hufft*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 226 (2003); *Ellis v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council*, SC 05-03/05 (2006).

II. Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss Case as Moot is Denied.

We note that the National Council, subsequent to Oral Arguments on this case, did by majority vote of the full Council dated June 24, 2006, reject the appointment of Larry Oliver to the Supreme Court. The case at bar, therefore, would now appear to be moot, with any further legal proceeding having no effect, and any decisions made by a reviewing court being purely academic. ³ Courts are required to hear actual cases and controversies and not hypothetical ones.

However, the U.S. Supreme Court has stated a very important exception to this rule: if a case is capable of repetition, yet evading review, the Court should and could hear and decide the case.

³Moot is a legal term in law that refers to “a subject for argument; unsettled; undecided. A moot point is one not settled by judicial decisions,” *Black’s Law Dictionary, 8th Edition*. See: *Roe v. Wade*, 410 U.S. 112, 113-114, (1978). This Court agrees with and adopts this view, and for the foregoing reason denies Defendant’s Motion to Dismiss Case ad Moot. ⁴

III. Failing to bring the nomination of a Supreme Court Justice nominee to a vote of the full National Council is a violation of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution.

This Court will first examine the Constitutional provisions for ap-

pointment and approval of a Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court Justice. The composition of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court is found in the Nation’s Constitution: “The Supreme Court shall be composed of six (6) members appointed by the Principal Chief, subject to majority approval of the National Council....”

(Emphasis added)

Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Article. VII §2.

Applying the above cited provision of the Constitution to the issues presented in this case, the Principal Chief, as head of the Executive Branch, is given the duty and power to make judicial appointments to the Supreme Court. However, the Principal Chief’s power to make such appointments to the Court is not absolute; it is subject to the majority approval of the National Council. This allows for a true separation of powers between the branches of government and permits a system of checks and balances. The “Checks” of this system refers to the abilities, rights, and responsibilities of each branch of government to monitor the activities of the other two branches. “Balances” refers to the ability of each branch of government in the Creek Nation to use its authority to limit the powers of the other two branches, whether in general scope or in as

⁴Since we are adopting this view, we must be clear that we are not following federal law, but merely incorporating the federal approach into our articulation of tribal law. particular case, so that one branch does not attain power greater than that of either of the other two branches.

In reviewing the issues presented and considering the relief requested, this Court relies on the doctrine of the separation of powers, as embodied in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution, to determine how it must, and will, rule in this matter. In several previous cases, this Court has recognized the separate but co-equal branch model of our government. Most recently, in *Ellis v. National Council*, SC 05-03/SC 05-05 (2006) this Court stated: “{T}he Muscogee (Creek) Nation has a long history of practicing separation of powers....” and “[N]o single branch of government is able to exercise complete authority and each is dependent on the other. This autonomy prevents powers from being concentrated in one branch, yet, the independence of each helps keep the others from exceeding their powers.” The separation of powers doctrine is not a new notion to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This Court has reviewed countless cases which have continued to spell out separate but equal principals and the need for a system of checks and balances. (See e.g.: *Muscogee Nation v. Tiger*, 7 Mvs. L. Rep. 8, (1885) (Original Bound Volumes of the Creek Nation — Vol. 10, Pg. 65); see also: *Burden v. Cox*, 1 Mvs, L. Rep. 135 (Muscogee (Creek) 1988); *Cox v. Kamp*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 75 (Muscogee (Creek) 1991).

Embraced within Article VII § 2 of the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution, lies an example of the “checks and balances” built into our Nation’s Constitution. To wit, the National Council’s role in confirming, or not confirming, a Supreme Court Justice nominee is to act as a check upon the actions of the Principal Chief in preventing arbitrary actions in Supreme Court appointments and to give assurance to the citizens of this Nation that a Supreme Court judicial appointment is a reasonable one. This function of the National Council should be balanced with the right and duty of the office of the Principal Chief to make prudent judicial appointments to the Supreme Court. Each branch has a job, a duty to itself and to the citizens of this Nation to perform that job. This Court holds that failing to bring the nomination of a Supreme Court Justice nominee to a vote of the full National Council is a violation of the Constitution and a breach of the fiduciary duty owed to the Nation’s citizenry as a whole.

Though the Court will not delve into timing issues of how or exactly when the National Council performs yea or nay votes on Supreme Court nominations, suffice it to say that the mandate of the Constitution is “shall” in several key phrases of Article II§2:

“The Supreme Court shall be composed of six (6) members appointed by the Principal Chief, subject to majority approval by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Council, and whose term shall be for six (6) years No person shall be appointed as a Supreme Court Justice who has a felony (emphasis added).

As officers of this Nation, all three branches are equally obligated to uphold the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution. Each share a co-equal status and no one branch stands above another. Yet, this Court finds itself repeatedly reviewing facts and evidence purporting to prove that the National Council is attempting to do just that – stand above all other branches. See: *Ellis v. Muscogee (Creek) National Council*, SC 05-03/05 (2006); *Alexander v. Gouge and Hufft*, 4 Mvs. L.R. 226 (Jan. 16, 2003); *Yahola v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 215 (2002); In the Matter of the Constitutionality of NCA 98-02, 4 Mvs. L. Rep 175 (1999); *Fife v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health Systems Board & Muscogee (Creek) National Council*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 144 (1995). ⁵

⁵See also: *Muscogee Nation v. Tiger*, 7 Mvs. L. Rep. 8, (1885); *Beaver v. National Council*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 19, (1985); *Cox v. Moore*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 38 (1989); *Preferred Management Corporation v. National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 44 (1990); *Bryan and Davis v. Childers*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 53 (1990); *Cox v. Kamp*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 75 (Muscogee (Creek) 1991); *Cox v Childers*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 71 (1991).

This Court does not believe that the above record of repeated litigation reflects an intentional attempt by the National Council to usurp the authority of either of the other two branches of government of this Nation. However, it is deeply troublesome to this Court that in two separate Oral Arguments in this matter alone, ant’s Counsel unequivocally states that the National Council does not have to follow the mandates laid out before it in the Constitution or follow an Order of this Court. At the hearing on Plaintiff’s Motion for Preliminary Injunction,

Defendant’s Counsel Standing Bear announced to this Court that: Mr. Standing Bear: The constitution[’s] language is the only thing that this Court takes original jurisdiction over. Now should a statute or act contradict that plain language, of course this court may strike something down or modify it as the court deems fit. But we’d simply point out as we did in our brief the only constitutional language is not a requirement that the National Council meet, the National Council vote. There is no language in the Constitution that says we have to come together and vote on any nominee; Supreme Court nominee or any other nominee. We don’t have to do that. And if the National Council chooses never to do it, so be it. 5/30/06 Tr. 58:31 and 59:7 (emphasis added).

Mr. Standing Bear: Well, your Honor, as to this order by Chief Justice Mike Flood of October 1986, whether or not a justice can continue indefinitely into office is the way I’m reading this - this is a - I can say on behalf of the National Council that may be one branch’s opinion but that is simply - at least not the Speaker and Second Speaker - the full Council hasn’t consulted with me but should - let’s say.....Justice Oliver never be brought to a vote - ... under this Order what I’m reading is that until some successor is brought forward by the Principal Chief, that the -- that particular judge shall simply remain in office forever. I can tell you that in their -- our scenario this morning talking to my clients I thought, “Well one of the dangerous, craziest thing[s] would be something just as this.” And by no coincidence we talked about this insane weird option and they - Council can do what they want; whether they want to recognize another branch’s view ...is up to the National Council. 5/30/06 Tr. 79:22-25, 80:1-17

Further, at the June 20, 2006 Oral Arguments: Mr. Standing Bear: Nothing in the Constitution compels the National Council to come into session and vote. National Council is a separate but equal branch of government. It chooses -- Justice Mouser: Mr. Standing Bear, do you think that the phrase, “subject to majority approval by the Muscogee (creek) National Council,” does not imply a vote? Mr. Standing Bear: This is correct. It is a condition upon us having -- holding office.

Justice Mouser: Well, how should that condition be satisfied without a vote?

Mr. Standing Bear: If it is a condition that is - it’s a requirement that should the Principal Chief appoint - and there’s nothing in here that says the Principal Chief has to appoint for a vacancy because it - depending on how you look at it - the way I look at it I could say, there’s no affirmative duty of the Council or the Principal Chief to make an appointment within so many days or so many months. 06/20/06 Tr. 11:19 - 12:12

Justice Mouser: I just want to be sure I understand what - what the National Council is arguing here is that there is no - there is nothing in the Constitution that requires the Chief to make an appointment to the Supreme Court?

Mr. Standing Bear: That is correct. And nothing that says they [National Council] have to come to vote. 06/20/06 Tr. 12:22 - 12:24

The concern of this Court is twofold. First, it is alarming that the National Council argues through its legal counsel that they are above the mandates of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution. This is evident from the above transcribed record. The Court, during Oral Arguments, was astounded to find such blatant disrespect for an Order of this Court and for the Constitution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. In cases of original jurisdiction such as the instant case, the duty of this Court is to interpret the laws and determine what statutes are constitutional or unconstitutional - it is **not** the National Council’s duty to make such determinations. Second, if one branch of our government abandons the co-equal model of government (as embodied in the Constitution of this Nation) it no doubt will lead to a weakened government and a true crisis for citizens of this Nation. Each of this Nation’s three branches of government holds great power, but each must also with a great sense of responsibility and recognition of its rightful authority and its concomitant limitations.

The Court will now address specifically the issues plead by the Plaintiff in this case.

ISSUE NUMBER ONE

Can the Court order the National Council to give appointees reasonable notice? Yes, under the doctrine of Due Process. Plaintiff, Larry Oliver has alleged that he was entitled to a reasonable notice to appear before the Business & Government Committee. The Court agrees that the Plaintiff was entitled to a reasonable notice to appear before and be heard by either a Committee of the National Council, the Planning Session, or the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the full National Council.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution provides at Article VI, §4(b): “The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council shall judge of the returns

and qualifications of its members, determine the rules of its proceedings.....” (emphasis added).

In a previous case, this Nation’s District Court aptly stated, “[Th[e District] Court should be ever hesitant to interfere in the operations of the Executive and Legislative branches.” *Burden v. Cox*, 1 Mvs. L. Rep. 135 (1988). This Court agrees. How the National Council operates to discharge its duty to approve appointments of the Principal Chief is within their Constitutional province. ⁶ However, the ideals of justice and fairness embodied in the doctrine of Due Process, Which must be afforded to all citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, do not disappear at the door when a political appointee’s nomination is being reviewed by either a Committee, a Subcommittee, a Planning Session, or the full membership of the National Council. Due process is not a new notion to this Court or to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Indeed, we have touched on the issue before.⁷ Additionally, the United States Supreme Court has continually stated that what is “due” to an individual is a fact intensive basis that takes into account the “practicalities and peculiarities of the case.” *Mullane v. Central Hanover Bank & Trust Co.*, 339 U.S. 306, at 314, (1950) (quotes in original).⁸ We agree with this proposition. Each and every political appointee should be afforded an opportunity to relate and discuss his or her qualifications for the position to which he or she has been nominated by the office of the Principal Chief - this is the opportunity to be heard. Further, any such nominee should be given reasonable notice of his or her required appearance in front of any gathering of members of the National Council - whether a Committee, a Sub-committee, the Planning Session, or a regularly scheduled meeting of the full National Council. A couple of hours notice - as occurred in the instant case - is insufficient to serve as reasonable notice.

⁶ While this Court is herein ruling that a political appointment nominee is entitled to due process in the form of reasonable notice and an opportunity to be heard, the Court also believes that it falls solely within the purview of the National Council to determine its internal procedure for providing such due process. This Court will not mandate the method or manner for providing notice, nor will it mandate the method or manner for allowing a political appointment nominee to be heard. ⁷See: *McIntosh v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 28 (1987) (It is necessary to show that notice and due process were afforded an Appellant at a revocation hearing.); *In the matter of R.F. & J.F.*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 198 (2000) (quoting language from the United State Supreme Court case of *Matthew v. Eldridge*: “three elements to be evaluated in deciding what due process requires: Private interests at state, the government interest and the risk that the procedures used will lead to erroneous decisions).

⁸The United States Supreme Court has continually upheld this proposition. See e.g.: *Jones v. Flowers*, 126 S. Ct. 1708 (2006) (notice and opportunity for hearing appropriate to the nature of the case); *Dusenbery v. United States*, 534 U.S. 161 (2002).

As a representative government, the citizens of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation elect National Council representative that will represent their interests in the operation and success of this nation. Therefore, working hand in hand with the nominees right to be heard is the duty of the National Council to provide the Citizens with an open and outward assurance that - regardless of whether the nomination was approved or rejected - the nomination was considered in as unbiased a fashion as possible, that the Council’s decision comports with the best interests of the citizens and of the Nation, and that its decision was not arbitrary or capricious.

ISSUE NUMBER TWO.

Did the Plaintiff have a right to have his appointment to the Supreme Court

considered fully by the entire National Council? Unequivocally, yes.

When the Principal Chief makes the appointment of a Justice to the Nation’s Supreme Court, that appointment is of no effect until the National Council, by majority approval, votes to approve or reject the appointment. That issue was addressed supra. The question considered by this Court then, is: What does “majority approval” mean? Where the Constitution requires a super-majority, such a requirement is expressly stated⁹ Therefore, a “majority approval” in its most basic interpretation means a simple majority vote of the quorum present as opposed to a super-majority. However, this Court believes that such a basic interpretation ignores the deeper and more significant question: Does a meeting of a Committee of the National Council, such as the Business & Government Committee, constitute a meeting of the National Council as intended

⁷ The Court sites for example Article VI, § 6 “Bills, ordinances, orders, resolutions or other acts.” This section of the Muscogee (Creek) Constitution references how the National Council may override a veto: “If, after reconsiderations, two-thirds (2/3) of the full membership of The Muscogee (Creek) National Council shall pass.....”

Additionally, the Nation’s Constitution states in Article IX, § 1 “Amendment procedure” that “...shall require two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote” by the framers of the Constitution? We believe not. This Court hereby interprets the language of the Constitution to direct the National Council, at a regularly scheduled monthly meeting, to consider and vote either in affirmation or disaffirmation each and every Supreme Court Justice appointee presented by the office of the Principal Chief. Neither the National Council; but it would be granting far too great a power to such a small number of representatives to allow such Committees to make a final determination regarding nominees and appointments from the office of the Principal Chief. Further, the Planning Session should not claim to speak as a voice of the citizens. Such Committees may make recommendations to the National Council; but it would be granting far too great a power to such a small number of representatives to allow such committees to make a final determination regarding nominees and appointments from the office of the Principal Chief. Further, the Planning Session should not claim to speak as a voice of the citizens because the citizens are not aware of the items to be discussed at the Planning Session.

By its very title, the Planning Session should only be used to set the agenda and determine which issues and items will be voted on at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the full National Council. To vote to affirm or reject any nominee or appointee from the office of the Principal Chief during a Planning Session flies in the face of the ideals of representative government. Therefore, this Court holds that a Supreme Court judicial nominee from the office of the Principal Chief must be brought to a vote of the full National Council at a regularly scheduled monthly meeting and shall not be deemed approved or rejected by Committee nor in Planning Session. A vote of the constitutionally mandated quorum necessary to conduct business shall suffice as the full National Council, and no super-majority will be required.

ISSUE NUMBER THREE

In the instant case, did the National Council’s action at the Planning Session in voting to let stand the decision of the Business & Government Committee give rise to an actionable event? No, because it was not a final action. In principle, the appointment by the office of the Principal Chief of Larry Oliver to the Supreme Court was still pending in the National Council on April 25, 2006. This appointment remained pending until a formal vote was taken by the National Council at its regularly scheduled monthly meeting where the appointment was on the agenda or until the appointment was withdrawn by the Principal Chief. This is so, notwithstanding Muscogee (Creek) Nation Code Title 26, Section 3-202. This ordinance states:

“In the event a nomination is not approved within sixty days by the National Council, the nomination shall be deemed to be rejected and the Principal Chief shall submit a new nomination within thirty days (i.e. a new nomination and not the one that was rejected).” We have held that the Constitution of this Nation must be strictly construed and interpreted; and where the plain language is clear, we must not place a different meaning on the words. Additionally, the duty of this Court is not to merely give definitions of the law but also to determine the intent and scope of the words of the Constitution. See: *Cox v. Kamp*, 4 Mvs. L. Rep. 75 (1991). Title 26, Section 3-202 has the consequence of allowing a Supreme Court Justice nominee to never be reviewed and voted on by the National Council. As was alluded to in Oral Arguments, under this statute it would be up to the National Council to determine whether or not the Council would even entertain a nomination from the office of the Principal Chief; that after 60 days, silence would equal a rejection of the nomination. This is squarely in violation of the mandates of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Constitution Article VII § 2. This Court hereby holds that the Nation’s Code Title 26, Section 3-202 has the effect of being in direct conflict with the intent of the framers of the Constitution, and therefore it is unconstitutional.

Henceforth, the Principal Chief shall be free to resubmit a duly rejected appointment nominee at such time as he or she feels it is appropriate. Further, the National Council may again reject such resubmitted appointee by a majority vote of its members. This Court recognizes that some limitation on the number of times a nominee is submitted may be appropriate, but refuses to encroach upon the legislative function of the National Council which must author and pass such laws into effect. However, until such legislation is in place, this Court notes that there is no limit on the number of times a nominee may be resubmitted.

In the instant case, the action of the Planning Session in letting the decision of the Business & Government Committee stand did not give rise to an actionable event. The voting record presented to the Court at Oral Argument did not disclose what the Business & Government Committee’s decision was, only that it would be allowed to stand; had that Planning Session vote ended the Plaintiff’s nomination process, this Court would have reviewed that vote as an actionable event. However, after Plaintiff filed his lawsuit and Oral Arguments was heard during which this Court questioned the National Council as to whether the National Council considered the Planning Session was held in which Plaintiff’s nomination was added to the agenda for the regularly scheduled monthly meeting of full National Council. The matter was resolved at the June 24, 2006 regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the full National Council when it voted down a motion to approve the appointment of Plaintiff Larry Oliver to the Nation’s Supreme Court. In doing so, the National Council fulfilled its duty and obligation under the Constitution to approve or reject the appointment of a nominee to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Supreme Court.

Vote
Judge Mike Claver
District Judge
Okmulgee, Creek
and Okfuskee Counties



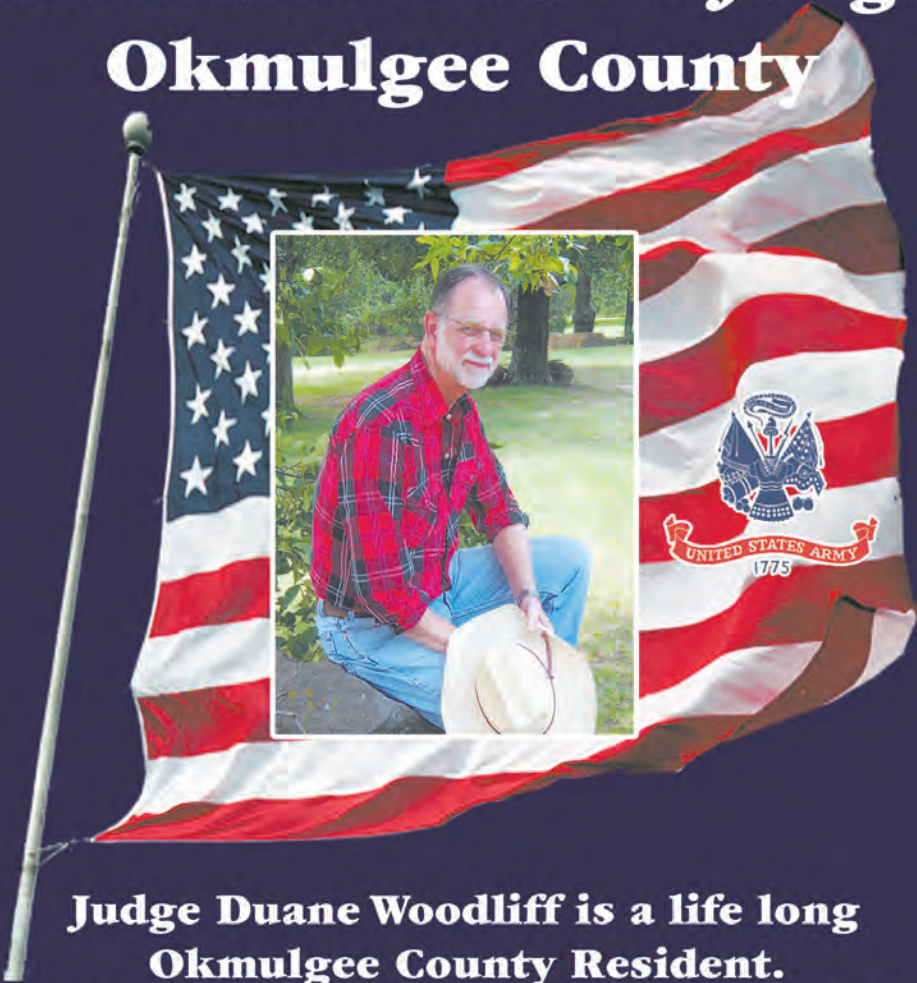
Muscogee Etlwv semmnvice tahes
Heyv fvtcecv este catvlke emvnicvte
yekcet escoket os.

Okis ce totkv vfvstv

**Judge Claver has helped the Muscogee
(Creek) Nation, the Nation's Elders and
young people. He has even left the
courthouse to take care of
Myskoke business**

Paid for by Patrick E. Moore

Vote for
Judge Woodliff
Associate District Judge
Okmulgee County



**Judge Duane Woodliff is a life long
Okmulgee County Resident.
United States Army Veteran 1966-1970
2 years overseas**

Heyv fvtcecv este catvlke emvnicvte
yekcet escoket os.
Suletawv tos ohrolope 1966-1970
rvtekat esyomen ohrolope
hokkolen tvpalv rakkon
momecvtes.

**Muscogee Etlwv semvnice tahes.
okis ce Totkv Vfvstv**

Paid for by Patrick E. Moore
Momen Totkv Vfvstv

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After
**Lewis &
Clark**

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Native American Art
October 13 - December 17**

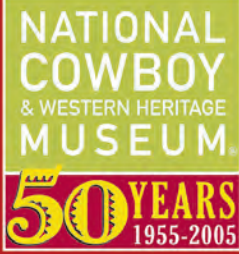
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MUSCOGEE NATION

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SECTION C - THE SCENE

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RADIO/TELEVISION

Tribal citizens are invited to tune in every Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. on KOKL 1240 AM radio for the Muscogee Nation News Radio Program for tribal news, community happenings, and National Council updates as well as special guest interviews. If you cannot catch the guys on KOKL, log on to www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov and listen to streamed episodes recently aired.

Native News Today, hosted by Gerald Wofford and Jason Salsman, is broadcast weekly on Saturday mornings beginning at 11 a.m. on Cox Cable Channel 3. The show covers an array of topics, such as art, business, entertainment, politics, and sports. Over the past 27 news segments, the show has been host to special guests such as Governor Brad Henry, State Treasurer Scott Meacham, Head Coach George Karl of the Denver Nuggets, Native American Actor Wes Studi and Actress Irene Bedard, Washington Husky gridiron star Sonny Sixkiller, and Native American activist Dennis Banks.

Current plans are in the works for the program to be available on InDemand programming on www.cox.com. Live internet broadcasts are planned to be available by mid-December. For more information, or to submit story ideas contact us at (918) 732-7637.

Annual Cultural Day continues to grow

MVSKOKE LANGUAGE

Mitch Jack, far left, teaches a tribal citizen how to say Raccoon in the Mvskoke language. This is one of the avenues The Office of Child Care is using to preserve the Creek heritage.

photo by Starla Bush



by Starla Bush
MNN Staff Writer

Okmulgee—The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Annual Cultural Day, sponsored by The Office of Child Care, continues to promote the Mvskoke Culture and grows in participation and attendance.

According to Office of Child Care Business Manager Newman

Frank the event was well attended. “It was a good turnout overall and the weather was great,” said Frank.

In attendance were approximately 1,200 people, including over 200 students from several surrounding areas within the Creek boundaries, ranging from first through 12th grade.

Some of the activities included: Stompdance, performed by Duck Creek ceremonial ground, Creek hymn singing by Concharty United Methodist Church, flute music by Tim Harjo, and of course, demonstrations in frybread making. Several vendors and arts/crafts booths were in attendance as well.

Among one of the displays was the Mvskoke Language table where Sylvia Baker and Mitch Jack spoke the Mvskoke language. “We are trying to preserve the Mvskoke language” said language speaker Mitch Jack. “It’s up to us to keep the Creek culture alive.”

COUNCIL OAK CEREMONY: 20TH ANNUAL

by Ruth Bible
MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE —While the state of Oklahoma prepares to celebrate it’s centennial (1907), the Mvskoke Etlwlv will continue to celebrate that which is closest to their hearts and what makes them who they are, the rich Mvskoke culture and traditions.

For the past 20 years, the Council Oak Ceremony has represented and sustained the culture and traditions of the Mvskoke Etlwlv. The Mekkos and ceremonial ground leaders who attend, annually are responsible for keeping the fires burning. Fires that were started before the forced removal of what historians refer to as the “Trail of Tears” in the early 1800’s. Earlier this year the Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes met at this site to commemorate “100 years of Full Force and Effect” while others were celebrating the Oklahoma land run.

Chebon Gouge served as this



year’s master of ceremonies. Hickory Ground Mekko George Thompson gave the Punvka Cvpkeckv. Miss Muscogee, Melanie Frye, introduced the visiting

dignitaries. The City of Tulsa and Mayor Kathy Taylor issued a proclamation of recognition. Thomas Yahola of Tallahassee Cromwell gave a brief history of Council

Oak, while Eunice Hill of Nuyaka gave a history of Creek traditions. National Council Representative Cherrah Quiett gave the closing remarks.

MVSKOKE CULTURE LIVES

Eventhough the number of existing Mvskoke Ceremonial Grounds has decreased since the removal from 44 to 16, leaders and members of 13 Ceremonial Grounds continue to fight for the preservation of the Mvskoke Etlwlv.

photo by Ruth Bible

Tribe to be highlighted in new library

The Nation will be recognized in two major Muscogee themed spaces

TULSA — The new public library being built at LaFortune Park (Tulsa) will help serve the more than 5,000 Native Americans living in the area served by the American Indian Resource Center.

But we don’t just serve those living in the immediate area. Our integrated library system allows people living across Tulsa County to take ad-

vantage of the collections and expertise housed at any of our individual locations. Our dedicated librarians host programs for all ages, from infant storytimes to career-building workshops for adults.

Teresa Washington Runnels, American Indian Resource Center Coordinator and tribal citizen, has been

SEE LIBRARY - A7

Community receives new fire truck

OLIVE—National Council Speaker, George Tiger, recently presented the Olive Volunteer Fire Department with the keys to their new fire truck.

“I read in an issue of the Muscogee Nation News how the National Council was helping other communities obtain fire trucks” said Kyle Perryman, Olive volunteer firefighter. “So I went to talk to my representative Duke Harjo, and with his help we were able to obtain a new fire truck”.



Letter from the Principal Chief

Greetings to all tribal citizens:

submitted on November 1, 2006

I believe that winter is finally here in Okmulgee county. Accordingly, to what the weather man says. Our first freeze will be tonight, November 1.

I urge everyone to check on all elders and to be sure they and their families are prepared to keep warm and comfortable in the coming months.

Our nation's elders are passing on in record numbers it seems. Sometimes it's national and there is nothing we can do but, remember the great memories of earlier times.

Each time we lose a tribal elder we lose a part of tribal history, that can never be replaced.

If you are out driving from now until Christmas, please notice the colorful lights that have been installed over the mound building. I believe this is the first time that the tribal complex will be decorated for Christmas with lights. Many thanks to the District Court and National Council.

I just returned from the Johnson O'Malley Challenge Bowl and there were 30 public schools taking part. It's very good to see hundreds of Creek students competing for the most informed



Chief Ellis

and brightest students. Next week I have been invited to Albuquerque, New Mexico to receive special recognition for the Creek Nation for lobbying and fighting for national funding. This is very important to all Indian students nationwide. Our own Virginia Thomas is the National president and much credit goes to Virginia and her Creek Nation staff.

Quote of the Month — When you come to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on.

Letters to the Editor: Letters reflect the opinion of the individual writer and not those of The Muscogee Nation News, its advisors, nor the tribal administration. Editorials and letters must be signed by the individual writer and include a traceable address or phone number to be considered for publication.

Community appreciates help

The Okemah Indian Community would like to thank National Council Speaker, George Tiger, National Council representatives Travis Scott, Lena Wind, Bill and Jeff Fife for attending and participating in the "Creek Harvest Festival" held in Okemah on October 6 & 7.

In addition, Tulsa, Sapulpa, Okfuskee, Arbeka, Creek Nation Hospital employee committee, Okemah 4-H club. Scott Robinson and group and the City of Okemah for their participation, planning and coordination of the event. Those contributing were Sandra and Robert Heath, Okemah National Bank, Citizens State Bank, Parks Brothers ACE Hardware and Okemah Casino.

Mvto, Okemah Indian Community

Citizen appreciates assistance

In the Fall of 2004 the National Council approved monies to help LPNs become RNs, I participated in that opportunity and I want to express my heartfelt thanks to Chief Ellis, Second Chief Berryhill and the National Council for expanding the doors to tribal members in the healthcare field, without this support, I would not have been able to obtain the RN Licensure. I would also like to thank Danna Minnick and the WIA staff for making the student experience a more pleasant one, by providing clear directions for requirements and offering encouragement and support along the way.

Also, a special thanks goes to Speaker,

SEE LETTERS - A7

Second Opinion

Hens Ci. The following is a continued excerpt from the book, Apalachee The Land between the Rivers by John H. Hann: To nullify these charms, the rival village would adopt countermeasures known as the chacalica chacalica (4). The most striking of Footnote (4) In the ball game manuscript this native term is followed by its equivalent in Spanish, the contra de la contra or "the against, or counter, of the counter."

These measures was the preparation of a fetid stew made by cooking a turkey, squirrel, or raccoon for three or four days. This foul, greasy mixture would be blended with the clays the Indians used to paint themselves. The object of this was to upset their rivals and thereby neutralize the rivals' magic as the players began to



Second Chief Berryhill

series of equidistant sassafras pegs, five to a side. Suspended from the outer edge of each peg is what appears to be a short tassel, and inscribed below each of the ten pegs in a minuscule script is the word atari. The other inscriptions on this drawing are in Spanish, so this word is probably Spanish as well. The letter r in the word seems to rule out its being an Apalachee name.

Although there appears to be no such word in modern Spanish, it may well be an obsolete derivative of the verb atar, meaning "to tie," and may indicate that the grapevines used to raise the post were tied to those pegs or that the decorations placed on the post were tied there. The top bears and eagle's nest, a stuffed eagle, and some small spiral shells. Paiva's remark "because a pole

games was to assure adequate rains for the crops.

The rituals for setting up a goalpost were elaborate. Once the pole's basic frame had been assembled, but before the sassafras pegs were attached, the crown was to be put in place facing the east. The hole for raising the pole had to face west. The eagle atop the pole also had to face the setting sun. Only grapevines were to be used in raising the pole. These were in memory of the vines used by the game's patron, Nicoguada, to divert the snakes in one of the trials he endured. For some time before the raising of the pole, warriors were to dance around the pole to the sound of a drum, occasionally howling like dogs, at other times barking, and at still others making wolflike noises. In one of the earlier translations of this passage, these warriors were presented as having to dance to the sun with a tambourine. However, the Spanish text here is very clearly "Avian de estar las tascaias vailando al son de um tamboril al rededor al palo," meaning to the sound of a drum around a pole.

viewed the rituals performed by the usinulo as an idolatrous worship of the pole and of the gods of lightning and rain with which it and the game were associated. A final rule stipulated that a human skull or scalp be placed at the foot of the post in honor of Ytonanslac, the founder of the game and the patron of the players.

The ritual for the raising of the pole also prescribed that a dance be held on the night before that event. For that evening the usual taboos governing sexual conduct were suspended. Paiva described this feature of the ceremony. "As a guarantee of good luck for the season, any man had carte-blanche to touch, fondle, etc. any of the women who came, whether they were married or single." "The headman, he remarked, went about exhorting the women not to defend themselves against these advances lest the village lose all the games it played under that pole and lest their husbands and brothers and leaders thereby lose everything they owned, referring to the natives' custom of making substantial wagers on the outcome of the game.

tomarily attended the game. Paiva commented in shocked tones about the lack of family supervision and togetherness that characterized these outings.

Once it was announced that there was a ball game, they all foolishly ran to see it. They went whichever way they chose. The husband took off by one path, the wife by another. And if they had a daughter or sons, each one chose his own path, except that they all went to see the ball [game]. The husband did nothing to prevent his wife or his children from going with whomever they pleased and to wherever they pleased. [See appendix 2 for complete translation of this section.]

THIS COMPLETES THE EXCERPT FROM THIS BOOK. NEXT MONTH WILL BE A NEW SELECTION. Mvto.



Muscogee Nation News November 2006

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 - Sports - Jason Salsman
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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

The Muscogee Nation News is mailed Third Class from Stigler, Oklahoma to all enrolled citizens' households upon request and proof of citizenship. Inquiries should be directed to the tribal communications department. Please include your tribal enrollment number with all correspondence.

TO CHANGE OR SUBMIT AN ADDRESS, CALL (918) 732-7720 or send e-mail to: jcook@muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Case No. JV-2002-11
)
Tanisha Culley, DOB 7/7/89)
Willard Culley, DOB 7/16/91)
Faith Culley, DOB 7/9/92)
Starla Culley, DOB 12/15/96)
Deandra Pigeon, DOB 5/11/02)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

MOTION TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS

COMES NOW the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, by Shannon L. Prescott, Assistant Attorney General, who respectfully moves this Court to terminate the parental rights of natural father David Polk, to his minor child Deondre Pigeon in the above-styled case. In support thereof, the Nation would show the following:

1. On July 12, 2002 a deprived petition was filed with this court alleging the above-named child to be a deprived;
2. On August 23, 2002 an adjudication hearing was held and the Court adjudicated the child as deprived;
3. David Polk has failed to maintain a significant relationship with the child through visitation or communication for a period of six (6) consecutive months out of the last fourteen (14) months immediately preceding the filing of this petition.
4. David Polk is an unfit parent as he has failed to provide for the health and welfare of his child.
5. The conduct or condition of David Polk is not likely to change over time;
6. It is in the best interest of Deondre Pigeon that the parental rights of David Polk be terminated.

WHEREFORE, the Nation respectfully prays that this matter be heard at which time the parental right of David Polk, be terminated.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon L. Prescott Assistant Attorney General Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Justice, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447, Telephone: (918) 732-7750

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OKMULGEE DISTRICT

IN THE MATTER OF:)
) Case No. JV-2003-18
)
Desmon Noriega, DOB 10/02/96)
Jonathan Noriega, DOB 7/30/99)
)
)
Alleged Deprived Children)

PETITION TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS OF LEE ROSS AS TO JONATHAN NORIEGA

COMES NOW the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, by Shannon Cozzoni, First Assistant Attorney General, who respectfully petitions this Court to terminate the parental rights of Lee Ross, to his minor child Jonathon Noriega in the above-styled case. In support thereof, the Nation would show the following:

1. On or about February 13, 2004 Jonathon Noriega was adjudicated deprived by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court;
2. Lee Ross has failed to correct the conditions that led to the above child being adjudicated deprived; although he has had over three months to correct the condition.
3. The conduct or condition of Mr. Ross renders him unable or unwilling to give the children reasonable parental care; and/or
4. Lee Ross has failed to maintain a significant relationship with Jonathan Noriega through visitation or communication for a period of six consecutive months out of the last 14 months; and

WHEREFORE, It is the best interest of Jonathan Noriega that the parental rights of Lee Ross, the father of Jonathan Noriega, be terminated. The Nation respectfully prays that this matter be heard at which time the parental rights of Lee Ross, the father of Jonathan Noriega, be terminated.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Cozzoni, First Assistant Attorney General, Muscogee (Creek) Nation Department of Justice, P.O. Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447, Telephone: (918) 732-7750.

SEE DISTRICT COURT - A7

From the desk of the Speaker
HE(N)SCI !!!

It is hard to believe it’s already November. As the Holiday season is approaching, in behalf of the members of the 14th Session of the National Council, Happy Thanksgiving!

On September 29, Supreme Court Chief Justice Denette Mouser with the concurrence of Justices issued an Order Denying Plaintiff’s Application and Writ. This was in response to Chief Ellis’ filing of an Application for Contempt Citation and Petition for Writs of Prohibition on September 14. In



Tiger

essence, this was due to the budget process of the National Council in particular with one of the Standing Committee actions. After review the Court finds there has been no action of the National Council on the issues presented in the Plaintiff’s Application and Petition. The Order referred an earlier decision by the Court in Larry Oliver v. Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, SC 06-04, decisions made at the committee meetings is not actionable events. With this ruling, the National Council maintains their stand in working together to address differences in an amicable manner rather than going to litigation.

On October 20 the National Council hosted a Legislature Golf Scramble at the White Hawk Golf Course in Bixby. Approximately 80 golfers participated in the First Annual Golf Scramble. The purpose was to host an event that colleagues of other Legislatures could come and share ideas regarding governmental activities. I was pleased to see members of other Tribal Councils and State Legislature joining in the event. During the last year I was amazed some members of Oklahoma’s state legislature are not familiar with tribes and tribal governments. Yet, legislation that adversely affects tribal governments was addressed with no input from the tribes. Due to the tremendous economic impact the tribes collectively have in Oklahoma, state leaders are finally recognizing the importance of working with us. As I have stated in my previous columns, we are making a difference in Oklahoma, what’s good for us is good for Oklahoma.

As District 9 Oklahoma Senator Earl Garrison stated to me, “Speaker, this event between a Tribal nation and the state of Oklahoma has been long overdue. I hope it’s a start of bridging any gap between us so we can work together to the benefit of everyone in Oklahoma.” Speaker Mike Amos of the Choctaw Nation Council said he is “looking forward to next year’s event.” Since this event, other tribal legislatures and state officials have expressed their interest in attending the next one. The elected officials who attended this year’s event felt the purpose was achieved. Everyone agreed that State issues regarding tribal concerns must have input from tribal governments. The Golf Scramble was a sponsored event with no tribal revenues being used to support it.

During the Quarterly Session on October 28th, the Council passed legislations for appropriations that totaled in the amount of \$1,469,980.00. Legislations that were more than \$100,000.00 appropriations are: NCA 06-181 for \$335,000.00 to Weleetka Indian Community for a nutrition site, NCA 06-199 for \$406,310 for the completion of expansion of the Okemah Casino, NCA 06-235 for \$380,000 for a water system in the Industrial Park located in Okmulgee and NCA 06-237 for a \$125,000.00 loan to Tulsa Creek Indian Community for start up costs of their smoke shop. After each monthly meeting during FY 2007, I will be providing this information to our tribal members.

In closing, in behalf of my nephew Darryl Tiger and his wife Camella, I thank everyone for your outpouring of love and assistance to his family during the recent tragic loss of their daughter, Gracie. The words of kindness, encouragement and most of all your prayers will help tremendously on their journey to healing.

I want to remind everyone to go vote on November 7. The Indian vote counts. I again express my appreciation to you that have contacted me with words of encouragement for and to the National Council, until next time, MVTO!

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE SEPTEMBER 30, REGULAR SESSION.

ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVE **SHIRLENE ADE** WAS ON TRAVEL STATUS AND **LARRY BIBLE**, EXTENDED MEDICAL LEAVE EXCUSED FOR THIS MEETING.

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCR 06-003, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE EXTENSION OF THE SPECIAL SERVICES ATTORNEY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AND GEOFFREY STANDING BEAR, P.C. FOR ONE YEAR SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCR 06-004, A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL AUTHORIZING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL TO JOIN A LAWSUIT TO CHALLENGE THE PROPOSED NIGC REGULATIONS ON CLASS II GAMING AND DIRECTING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ATTORNEY TO TAKE CERTAIN ACTIONS AND TO REPORT SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER**

• APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-114, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CHEROKEE NATION TO ALLOW THE NATION TO PROVIDE INFORMATION TO THE CHEROKEE NATION CANCER REGISTRY DATABASE SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER**; CO-SPONSOR: **BO JOHNSON**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-128, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION ADOPTING A PROCUREMENT POLICY FOR THE EXPENDITURE OF NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING AND SELF-DETERMINATION ACT (NAHASDA) FUNDING SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

• APPROVED (21-0-2) TR 06-131, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF **SHARON MOUSS** TO SERVE ON THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION BOARD

OF REGENTS SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**;

ABSTAIN WERE: **BILL FIFE** AND **JEFF FIFE**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-132, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TR 05-133 (A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE RE-NOMINATION OF BLUE CLARK TO SERVE ON THE COLLEGE OF THE MUSCOGEE NATION TRIBAL UNIVERSITY BOARD OF REGENTS) TO AMEND THE EXPIRATION OF THE TERM OF BLUE CLARK SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-134, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO TERMINATE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT FOR THE “FOUNTAINHEAD PROPERTY” BETWEEN MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AND ONNAM ENTERTAINMENT SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**;

• APPROVED (22-0-1) TR 06-136, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HONORING AND RECOGNIZING **ARLENE EFURD** AND **JUNE MUSTARI** FOR THEIR SERVICE TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AS MEMBERS OF THE G.O.A.B. (GAMING OPERATIONS AUTHORITY BOARD) SPONSOR: **CHERRAH QUIETT**; CO-SPONSOR(S): **S. ALEXANDER**; **R. CLEGHORN**; **L. BIBLE**; **P. WILLITS**;

ABSTAIN WERE: **BO JOHN-SON**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) TR 06-139, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION NOMINATING **ROBERT W. TREPP** TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE NATIVE AMERICAN GRAVES PROTECTION AND REPA- TRIATION ACT (NAGPRA) REVIEW COMMITTEE SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

• APPROVED (22-1-0) NCA 06-196, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZ- ING AN APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION TRIBAL TRADE AND COMMERCE AUTHORITY FOR ITS FISCAL YEAR 2007 OPERATIONAL BUD- GET SPONSOR: **ROGER BAR- NETT**; CO-SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE** (\$957,396.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **RON**

CLEGHORN;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 06-197, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE DIVISION OF COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR START-UP COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IMPE- LEMENTATION OF A TRIBAL TEMPO- RARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM SPONSOR: **CHERRAH QUIETT**; CO-SPON- SOR: **RON CLEGHORN**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 06-204, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN MCNCA TITLE 24 TO AUTHORIZE THE DIVISION OF HOUSING TO PER- FORM ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS PREVIOUSLY UNDERTAKEN BY THE HOUSING AUTHORITY AND TO CLARIFY OTHER FUNCTIONS THAT WILL ALLOW THE DIVISION OF HOUSING TO OPERATE MORE EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

• RETURNED BACK TO COM- MITTEE (22-0-1) NCA 06-207, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 36, §3-102.L. TO REFLECT THAT THE AGE DEFINITION FOR “SENIOR CITIZEN” HAS BEEN RE- VISED TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM’S “SENIOR CITIZEN” AGE DEFINITION SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 06-208, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FROM THE OFFICE OF INDIAN ENERGY AND ECONOMIC DEVEL- OPMENT AND APPROPRIATING GRANT AWARD FOR PARTICIPA- TION IN P.L. 102-477 SPONSOR: **RICHARD BERRYHILL**; CO- SPONSOR: **JOHNNIE GREENE**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA 06-210, A LAW OF THE MUSCO- GEE (CREEK) NATION AMEND- ING MCNCA TITLE 37 §2-129 ENTITLED “MURROW INDIAN CHILDREN’S HOME” TO ADJUST THE ANNUAL ALLOCATION TO COMPENSATE FOR INCREASED COSTS OF PROVIDING BASIC ELEMENTS OF LIVING DUE TO INFLATION AND APPROPRIATING FUNDING FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**; CO-SPONSOR’S: **D. HARJO**; **P. BEAVER**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA

06-211, A LAW OF THE MUSCO- GEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHO- RIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THE OKLAHOMA ARTS COUNCIL GRANT FOR THE “WARM MVS- KOKE WELCOME” EVENT OF THE TRAIL OF TEARS MOTOR- CYCLE COMMEMORATIVE RIDE TO OKMULGEE, OKLAHOMA ON SEPTEMBER 18, 2006 SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA

06-217, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS FOR THE **BELVIN HILL** MEMO- RIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD DUR- ING THE 2007 CHALLENGE BOWL SPONSOR: **JAMES JENNINGS**;

• APPROVED (22-1-0) NCA

06-223, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZ- ING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE 100TH YEAR CELEBRA- TION OF HIGH SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH SPONSOR: **LENA WIND** (\$2,400.00);

VOTING NO WERE: **RICH- ARD BERRYHILL**;

• APPROVED (23-0-0) NCA

06-224, A LAW OF THE MUSCO- GEE (CREEK) NATION AMEND- ING NCA 06-146 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION (COMMISSION) SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**;

• RETURN TO COMMITTEE

(23-0-0) NCA 06-225, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NA- TION AMENDING NCA 06-221 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE CON- TINUING ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2007 COMPRE- HENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET AT THE APPROVED FY 2006 APPRO- PRIATIONS) SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT**.

EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WERE: **TOM PICKERING**, **KEEPER JOHN- SON**, **LARRY BIBLE**, **CHERRAH QUIETT**, AND **JOHNNIE GREENE**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

• APPROVED (20-0-0) NCA 06-205, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 AND PROVIDING FOR APPRO- PRIATIONS.

States of America. Her theme is that the federal government and Indian Tribes are conspiring to take away the civil rights of white people. Indians have treated the white settlers badly, she writes, ever since Christopher Columbus brought “civilization” to these shores.

Willman calls tribal governments “rotting hamburger” and argues that they do not serve the interests of their people. She claims that the Environmental Pro- tection Agency and rural tribes conspire to take private property away from non- Indians. Some tribes are empowered, she says with horror, to force farmers to obey environmental laws. She states that non-assimilated Indians are intent upon “balkanizing” the United States and destroying Euro-American culture. White Americans, Willman says, do not owe Indians any apology for slaughtering their ancestors, stealing their lands and forcing tribes into concentration camps. According to her, Indians are potential allies of foreign terrorists who would blow up our dams and power plants. She supports Bush’s war on “tribalism” in Iraq, saying we must eradicate it in the homeland, too, replacing it with “democracy.”

One Tribal leader stated, “we must call this organization for what they are, they are pure racist and they are not going away. We must do all we can to counteract their propaganda.”

You may log on to Citizens Equal Rights Alliance @ www.citizensalliance. org. They have a special sovereignty issue called, “The Tragedy of Tribal Sovereignty: America’s Longest Civil Rights Battle.”

NEWS IN INDIAN
COUNTRY:

Rita Williams, Legislative Liaison

NCAI’s annual convention

SACRAMENTO, CALI. — The National Congress of American Indians held their 63rd Annual Convention in Sacramento, California, September 30 - October 6, 2006. Among one of the many topics was the Native Vote effort and a press conference held with NCAI President, Joe Garcia, Vice - President Jefferson Keel, Former Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, and NCAI Execu- tive Director, Jackie Johnson. Speaker George Tiger, Council Representative Shirlene Ade and Rita Williams, Legis- lative Liaison was in attendance during this televised conference.

Questions from the media were asked in regards to tribal issues and the impact of the native vote. President Gar- cia said, “tribes are taking on more self- determination initiatives and we must be reactive to the responsibilities that come with that, part of the responsibility is Indian people using their voice and their vote in the electoral process.”

Former Colorado Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell said, “ Native People are realizing now more than ever the substantive nature of their power at the polls.” “By using our vote, we are beginning to define ourselves after 400 years where we were defined by someone else,”

NCAI’s Native Vote Campaign has focused this year with tribes across the nation to register, educate, and en- courage our people to get involved in

the voting process by going to the polls, November 7, 2006.

We are doing our part in Oklahoma to strengthen our voting voice at the polls on November 7, 2006. The Oklahoma Native Vote United will rally in Indian Country on Saturday, October 21st, 2006 starting at 1 p.m. in Del City, Oklahoma at the Reed Center. We are urging all tribes to attend and asking your help to get your people to this rally by using all transportation available within your tribe. We as Indian Tribes in the State of Oklahoma need to be as unified as the anti-Indian organizations are, by showing our solidarity and that Indian Tribes in Oklahoma can unite. Together our native people can well decide the outcome of our electoral race. For more information on this rally you may call, Rachael Megli/Cheyenne-Arapaho at (580) 497-7726, Nellie Roughface/Ponca Nation at (580) 762-8104, Lewie McCarthy/Comanche Nation at (580) 512-2112 or Rita Williams/Muscogee Creek at (918) 758-1410.

NCAI - TRIBAL LEADERS STRATEGY
SESSION ON PUBLIC RELATIONS

The topic of this discussion was the Anti-Indian Groups using informa- tion gained from NCAI’s research-based communications strategy tribal leaders discussed their strategy and message development to public relations strategy in the current media and political envi- ronment and in the wake of anti-Indian activism.

The Anti-Indian resistance has formed a new core to consolidate their regional complaints into a consistent anti-

tribal message at the federal level. They call themselves “One Nation United”, and their agenda is the termination of tribal rights and status.

Formerly, One Nation United re- stricted their efforts to flogging existing regional complaints (e.g. fuel tax in OK; cigarette taxation in NY; land use in WA; tribal control of federal facilities in MT; labor disputes in CA; etc.) Now, they are becoming more aggressive and working to create issues where none existed in an ef- fort to convince the public that there is an “Indian problem” wherever tribes exist.

There are Anti-Indian Organiza- tions that native people should be aware of other than One Nation and that is CERA - (Citizens Equal Rights Alliance). Peter Byrne wrote, WHITE POWER, in his col- umn of, The Byrne Report, about Elaine Devary Willman, Chair of the national organization calling itself Citizens for Equal Rights Alliance, she is from Top- penish, Washington, and their associate member groups bear names such as United Property Owners; One Nation United; and from Rohnert Park, Stop the Casino 101, an anticasino group led by Chip Worthing- ton, the pastor of a local church. Willman is advising Worthington on how to create public opinion against the casino and, not surprisingly, the Graton tribe itself.

Byrne interviewed Willman at a nearby coffee shop. She travels the country organizing people to oppose the autonomy of sovereign Indian tribes. In fact, she advocates the destruction of tribal governments and the liquidation of Indian nations. To further that end, she wrote a book and made a video, both called, Going To Peices: The Dismantling of the United

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Chances to win OU/OSU tickets every half-hour and meet Heisman Trophy winners Steve Owens, Billy Sims, and Jason White.

Friday
November 17 4:30PM - 11PM
Music featuring Pumpkin Hollow Boys, Chebon Tiger, Smilin' Vic, Brian Frejo, Cecil Gray & Red Dawn Blues Band, and Robbie Romero & Red Thunder.

Saturday
November 18 12PM - 12AM
Music featuring as Jimmie Johnson, 80 Proof, Julian B, Ravenhorse, Badwater, Lifefoot, Arizon Starr, Full Flava Kings, and Red Sun as well as the comedic duo of Williams & Ree "The Indian and the White Guy".

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Fourth Annual Pink Party: Soaring Beyond Breast

OKMULGEE — Rain didn’t dampen the spirits of over 400 persons who attended the Fourth Annual Pink Party on October 25, 2006 in the Mound building.

The Mound building was filled beyond capacity, with some sitting on the steps and standing in the lobby to attend the breast cancer awareness event hosted by the Okmulgee Indian Health Center (OIHC). Claude Sumner, Executive Director, welcomed attendees on behalf of Chief A.D. Ellis and David Dunson, Second Chief’s Office, led the opening prayer. Organizer and moderator Teri Garner, OIHC OB/GYN nurse practitioner, recognized approximately 25 breast cancer survivors who were in attendance.

Keynote speaker, Linda Burhansstipanov, Dr. PH, Executive Director of the Native American Cancer Research Corporation of Colorado, provided a lively and informative



Pictured above, from l to r, is David Dunson, Linda Burhansstipanov, and Executive Director Claude Sumner.

discussion of breast cancer in Native Americans. Linda “B,” a member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, received masters and doctorate degrees in Public Health from UCLA, taught at universities for 18 years, and developed and implemented the Native American Cancer Research Program at the National Cancer Institute from 1989-1993. Linda is the principal investigator of National Institutes of Health grants such as “Quality of Life: Native American Cancer Education for Survivors.” She serves on national boards such as The Intercultural Cancer Council and Mayo Clinic’s “Spirit of E.A.G.L.E.S.” Some characteristics presented are that Native American women tend to get breast

cancer prior to age 50, while the general population is over age 50. Also, breast cancer statistics for Native American women in Oklahoma are similar to women in the Northern Plains, although the data is reported in the east region of Indian Health Service.

Risk factors for breast cancer are: being a woman; growing older; personal history of breast cancer; personal history of another type of cancer; hereditary risk (BRCA1, BRCA—genetic testing can determine this, though this is extremely rare in Native Americans); family History; sedentary life style; over recommended body weight by 15-20 pounds; drinking equivalent to more than 7 alcoholic drinks in a week; not having had children; and no breast feeding longer than one year.

The three most important things women can do to detect breast cancer early is: monthly breast self-exams (take your time, about 15 minutes and use firm pressure); annual clinical breast exams (during well woman’s yearly exam); and annual mammograms for over 40 years of age

Any abnormal finding on any screening test may require further examinations, including biopsies, x-rays and/or an ultrasound. Ask questions and learn as much as you can.

Remember not all abnormalities are cancer! Men who find any abnormalities in their breasts should see their medical provider since men can get

breast cancer. Treatment for male breast cancer is the same as in women.

After the informational session, door prizes were given away and attendees adjourned to a tent on the lawn filled with educational booths and refreshments. The highlight of the event was a balloon release. A phone call was received from Pittsboro, North Carolina (near Raleigh), that a balloon had been found with a note promoting breast cancer awareness from the Pink Party in Okmulgee!

Terri Garner would like to thank Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, Creek Nation Okmulgee Casino, Diagnostic Laboratory of Oklahoma, Okmulgee Memorial Hospital, Blue Bell Ice Cream, MCN Partnership Board, MCN Tobacco Program, MCN Diabetes Program, and many local busi-

nesses and individuals who donated door prizes.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation citizen



Pink Party attendees participate in a group activity led by the guest speaker.

Amos Rabbit of Okemah designed the logo for the 2004, 2005 and 2006 Pink Party. The 2006 theme for the conference, “Flight to Freedom – Soaring Beyond Breast Cancer,” was depicted in a logo of an eagle holding the breast cancer awareness pink ribbon symbol in its talons.

For information about breast health care or other women’s health issues, contact OIHC Women’s Clinic at (918) 758-2717.

What is Influenza

The flu is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses. It can cause mild to severe illness, and at times can lead to death. The best way to prevent the flu is by getting a flu vaccination each year.

Every year in the United States, on average: 5% to 20% of the population gets the flu; more than 200,000 people are hospitalized from flu complications, and; about 36,000 people die from flu.

Some people, such as older people, young children, and people with certain health conditions, are at high risk for serious flu complications.

Symptoms of flu include: fever (usually high) · headache · extreme tiredness · dry cough · sore throat · runny or stuffy nose · muscle aches · Stomach symptoms, such as nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea, also can occur but are more common in children than adults

Complications of flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes.

Flu viruses spread mainly from person to person through coughing or sneezing of people with influenza. Sometimes people may become infected by touching something with flu viruses on it and then touching their mouth or nose. Most healthy adults may be able to infect others beginning one day before symptoms develop and up to five days after becoming sick. That means that you may be able to pass on the flu to someone else before you know you are sick, as well as while you are sick.

Preventing the Flu: Get Vaccinated

The single best way to prevent the flu is to get a flu vaccination each year. There are two types of vaccines: the “flu shot” – an inactivated vaccine (containing killed virus) that is given with a needle. The flu shot is approved

for use in people 6 months of age and older, including healthy people and people with chronic medical conditions; the nasal-spray flu vaccine – a vaccine made with live, weakened flu viruses that do not cause the flu (sometimes called LAIV for “Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine”). LAIV is approved for use in healthy people five years to 49 years of age who are not pregnant.

About two weeks after vaccination, antibodies develop that protect against influenza virus infection. Flu vaccines will not protect against flu-like illnesses caused by non-influenza viruses.

When to Get Vaccinated

October or November is the best time to get vaccinated, but getting vaccinated in December or even later can still be beneficial since most influenza activity occurs in January or later in most years. Though it varies, flu season can last as late as May.

Who Should Get Vaccinated?

In general, anyone who wants to reduce their chances of getting the flu can get vaccinated. However, certain people should get vaccinated each year either because they are at high risk of having serious flu-related complications or because they live with or care for high risk persons. During flu seasons when vaccine supplies are limited or delayed, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) makes recommendations regarding priority groups for vaccination.

People who should get vaccinated each year are:

1. People at high risk for complications from the flu, including: children aged six months until their fifth birthday, Pregnant women, people 50 years of age and older, people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions, and people who live in nursing homes and other long term care facilities.
2. People who live with or care for

those at high risk for complications from flu, including: household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu (see above); household contacts and out of home caregivers of children less than six months of age (these children are too young to be vaccinated); health care workers.

3. Anyone who wants to decrease their risk of influenza.

Use of the Nasal Spray Flu Vaccine

Vaccination with the nasal-spray flu vaccine is an option for healthy persons aged 5-49 years who are not pregnant, even healthy persons who live with or care for those in a high risk group. The one exception is healthy persons who care for persons with severely weakened immune systems who require a protected environment; these healthy persons should get the inactivated vaccine.

Who Should Not Be Vaccinated

Some people should not be vaccinated without first consulting a physician. They include: people who have a severe allergy to chicken eggs; people who have had a severe reaction to an influenza vaccination in the past; people who developed Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) within six weeks of getting an influenza vaccine previously; children less than six months of age (influenza vaccine is not approved for use in this age group); people who have a moderate or severe illness with a fever should wait to get vaccinated until their symptoms lessen.

If you have questions about whether you should get a flu vaccine, consult your health-care provider.

Children and the Flu Vaccine

CDC recommends that healthy children aged six months up through their fifth birthday, their close contacts (people who live with them), and out-of-home caregivers (nannies, day care providers, etc.) should get a flu vaccine. This expands last year’s recommendation to now include vaccination for children two years old up to their fifth birthday this flu season.

In addition, CDC also recommends influenza vaccination for any child from six months to 18 years of age with chronic health problems, including: asthma or other problems of the lungs; immune suppression; chronic kidney

disease; heart disease; HIV/AIDS; diabetes; sickle cell anemia; or long-term aspirin therapy; any condition that can compromise respiratory function.

Children less than two years old are more likely to be hospitalized by flu.

Children less than two years old—even healthy children—are at high risk of ending up in the hospital if they get the flu. Vaccinating young children, their families, and other caregivers can help protect them from getting sick.

The flu shot is not approved for use in children less than six months old.

Children under six months old can also get very sick from the flu, but they are too young to get a flu vaccine.

The best way to protect young children is to make sure that their household members and their caregivers are vaccinated.

Children aged two to five years old have more doctor and emergency room visits.

Children two to four years old are likely to taken to a doctor, an urgent care center, or the emergency room because of flu.

It is estimated that each year in the U.S., there are more than 20,000 children less than five years old hospitalized due to flu.

To protect their health, all children six months up until their fifth birthday should be vaccinated against the flu each year.

When to get children vaccinated:

The best time to get vaccinated is October or November. Children six months to nine years of age getting a flu shot for the first time will need two doses of vaccine the first year they are vaccinated, with the first dose ideally in September. The second dose should be given 28 or more days after the first dose. The first dose “primes” the immune system; the second dose provides immune protection. Keep this in mind if your child needs the two doses -begin the process early! It usually takes about two weeks after the second dose for protection to begin.

Because flu viruses change every year, the vaccine is updated annually. So even if you or your children got a flu shot last year, you both still need to get a flu shot this season to be protected. If

Okmulgee Clinic hosts breast cancer survivors luncheon

OKMULGEE — On Saturday, October 21, 2006, nineteen breast cancer survivors attended a luncheon at the Okmulgee Elderly Nutrition Center to fellowship and encourage one another. Length of survivorship ranged from one month to twenty years after breast cancer had touched their lives.

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill opened the event with a traditional Muscogee hymn and prayer. The



Breast Cancer Survivors Robin Hamilton and Tammy Hoyst with Mrs. Hoyst husband Jimmy Hoyst at the 1st survivors Luncheon.

keynote speaker was Beth Cordingly, Executive Director of Y-Me, which is a national organization whose mission is to support breast cancer survivors. Attendees enjoyed lunch, door prizes and educational booths.

For information about breast health care or other women’s health issues, contact the OIHC Women’s Clinic at (918) 758-2717.

Doctors Note, New Vaccine Recommendations for Children by Zack Anderson MD, MPH

While many patients have heard about cervical cancer, most patients are not aware that cervical cancer now has a new preventative treatment. Cervical cancers and genital warts are caused by a virus called HPV. HPV is the leading cause of cervical dysplasia and irregular pap smears. HPV has many forms and now a vaccine is available to protect women from being infected by these viruses. The vaccine is made by Merck and is called Gardasil.

Gardasil is recommended by the CDC ACIP (The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices). Gardasil is administered in your doctor’s office in a series of three (3) injections. It protects patients against four (4) of the most common and virulent forms of the HPV virus. It is recommended for administration on all females of 11-12 years of age and parents can start a child’s immunizations as early as age nine. Catch up vaccination is also advised for females

aged 13-26.

If women have already been diagnosed with HPV, they may also be a candidate for Gardasil. Efficacy of the vaccine in women infected with HPV has not yet been established, however, many physicians are considering this vaccine for their patients with HPV. If you have a history of HPV or and abnormal PAP smear you should schedule a visit with your healthcare provider to discuss this issue.

The vaccine is usually well tolerated and no significant adverse reactions to the vaccine have been reported. Gardasil provides protection against 70% of the HPV viruses responsible for cervical cancer and genital warts. Even if a female receives Gardasil, PAP smears are still advised annually starting at age 18 or when sexually active.

Call your healthcare provider today to schedule an appointment for your child or yourself to discuss this important new development in healthcare.

October and November slip by, and you haven’t gotten your children or yourself vaccinated, you should get vaccinated in December or later. Flu season can occur anytime from November through April, so getting the vaccine in December or later still offers protection in most years.

Healthy hygiene prevents germs

Submitted by the Creek Nation Health Systems

By frequently washing your hands you wash away germs that you have picked up from other people, or from contaminated surfaces, or from animals and animal waste.

What happens if you do not wash your hands frequently?

You pick up germs from other sources and then you infect yourself when you touch your eyes; or your nose; or your mouth.

One of the most common ways people catch colds is by rubbing their nose or their eyes after their hands have been contaminated with the cold virus.

You can also spread germs directly to others or onto surfaces that other people touch. And before you know it, everybody around you is getting sick.

The important thing to remember is that, in addition to colds, some pretty serious diseases -- like hepatitis A, meningitis, and infectious diarrhea -- can easily be prevented if people make a habit of washing their hands.

When should you wash your hands?

You should wash your hands often. Probably more often than you do now because you can’t see germs with the naked eye or smell them, so you do not really know where they are hiding.

It is especially important to wash your hands

- Before, during, and after you prepare food
- Before you eat, and after you use the bathroom
- After handling animals or animal waste
- When your hands are dirty, and
- More frequently when someone in your home is sick.

What is the correct way to wash your hands?

- First wet your hands and apply liquid or clean bar soap. Place the bar soap on a rack and allow it to drain.
- Next rub your hands vigorously together and scrub all surfaces.
- Continue for 10 - 15 seconds or about the length of a little tune. It is the soap combined with the scrubbing action that helps dislodge and remove germs.
- Rinse well and dry your hands.

It is estimated that one out of three people do not wash their hands after using the restroom. So these tips are also important when you are out in public.

So, as you can see, washing your hands frequently and properly can help you and your loved ones avoid a lot of uncomfortable days in a sick bed.

HOME OWNERSHIP PROGRAM DIRECT LENDING A NEW OPTION

OKMULGEE — The MCN Housing Division has added a new option to the usual construction and acquisition procedure of the Home Ownership Program which could increase the speed at which applicants can be housed.

Typically after an applicant is approved for a home they are asked where they want their home built or bought and given a few choices regarding certain features for their new home. Housing then took over the project and oversaw the construction or acquisition process from start to finish.

The new Direct Lending option will allow for approved participants of the Home Ownership Program to have significantly more involvement and decision making in the construction or acquisition of their home.

Basically Direct Lending is providing approved participants who are eligible and choose the Direct Lending option with a 0% interest rate loan to build or purchase their own home. In addition to the 0% interest loan, the applicant's payments will be based on the approved mortgage amount minus \$25,000. If the homeowner resides in the home the whole term of the loan, they will not have to repay the \$25,000.

If an applicant chooses the Direct Lending option they will have the choice to either build new or buy a home off the market. If the eligible applicant prefers building they can choose the land where they want to build, who they want to build it, and what kind of house design they would like as long as it meets Housing requirements. If they favor buying, they can pick the house of their choice as long as it is within the criteria of the Home Ownership Program. Manufactured homes are permitted with the Direct Lending option.

In order for an approved applicant to participate

in the Direct Lending option, they must meet the following criteria:

- 1) Be eligible through the Home Ownership Program
- 2) Be credit worthy on the basis of a credit report
- 3) Have the ability to meet financial obligations.

When the Development Department receives the approved applicant's file and this criteria is met, a Loan Committee consisting of three development staff members as appointed by the Deputy Director, will review and evaluate credit reports and rent history to determine amount of the approved loan.

Subsequent to approval for the Direct Lending option, a participant who wishes to have a house constructed will locate property on which to build. The property must meet all necessary environmental specifications as required by Housing. The participant will assist in securing a contractor with the help of a list of approved contractors provided by Housing. The participant must also apply for the necessary Community Shield Property protection plan. During the construction, Housing will conduct its usual inspections as required by the Development Department. If the participant prefers purchasing a house off the market it must again meet with any environmental requirements, be appraised and inspected.

Before occupancy of the house, the homebuyer will be given all loan information with payments being made directly to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division. The mortgage will not exceed 25 years and will be based on the final cost.

Mortgage Assistance Program provides services statewide

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Mortgage Assistance Program provides services that now cover the complete state of Oklahoma. Previously the Mortgage assistance program was available only to Creek Citizens living within the Creek Nation boundaries but now is available to Creek Citizens living anywhere within Oklahoma.

With many Native American families finding it difficult becoming homeowners due to the high cost of obtaining a mortgage loan, the Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help eligible clients with the financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan. The Mortgage Assistance Program helps Native American people become first time homeowners by assisting them with out of pocket expenses, such as down payment and closing fees. The assistance is provided as a grant for families who meet program requirements.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

Be a first time home buyer.

Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.

Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.

Be 18 years or older

Provide all requested information, CDIB for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.

Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.

Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

Preference given to Creek Citizens
For more information call or write:

MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, OK 74447
918-759-4137 Toll-free 1-800-259-5050

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division/Authority is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverage includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact

Lenora McPerryman

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

**Helping our
Tribal Citizens
Realize the
Dream of
Homeownership**
*Providing help through the
Mortgage Assistance Program*

Many Native American families find it difficult becoming a homeowner due to the high out of pocket cost of obtaining a mortgage loan.

The Mortgage Assistance Program is designed to help our Tribal Citizens realize their dream of becoming a homeowner by providing financial assistance needed to acquire a mortgage loan to eligible applicants.

For More Information
Contact:

**MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE
PROGRAM**
P.O. Box 297
Okmulgee, Ok 74447
1-800-259-5050
918-759-4137

The Mortgage Assistance
Program
is a program of the
**MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION
DIVISION OF HOUSING**

To be eligible for the program, clients must meet the following requirements established by The Mortgage Assistance Program and by the Native American Housing Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA).

- Be a first time home buyer.
- Live within the state of Oklahoma.
- Not be an existing or former Mutual Help Participant of NAHASDA Homebuyer/Lease with option to Purchase regardless of a Housing Service Area.

- Have an annual family income which does not exceed 80% of the national Median income published by HUD.

- Be 18 years or older.

- Provide all requested information, Citizenship card for preference purposes, Social Security cards, and employment verification for each working family member on the required forms.

- Sign all required forms including the consent for disclosure of information.

- Be able to meet all credit check and financial obligations for loan assistance from an approved and certified financial lender.

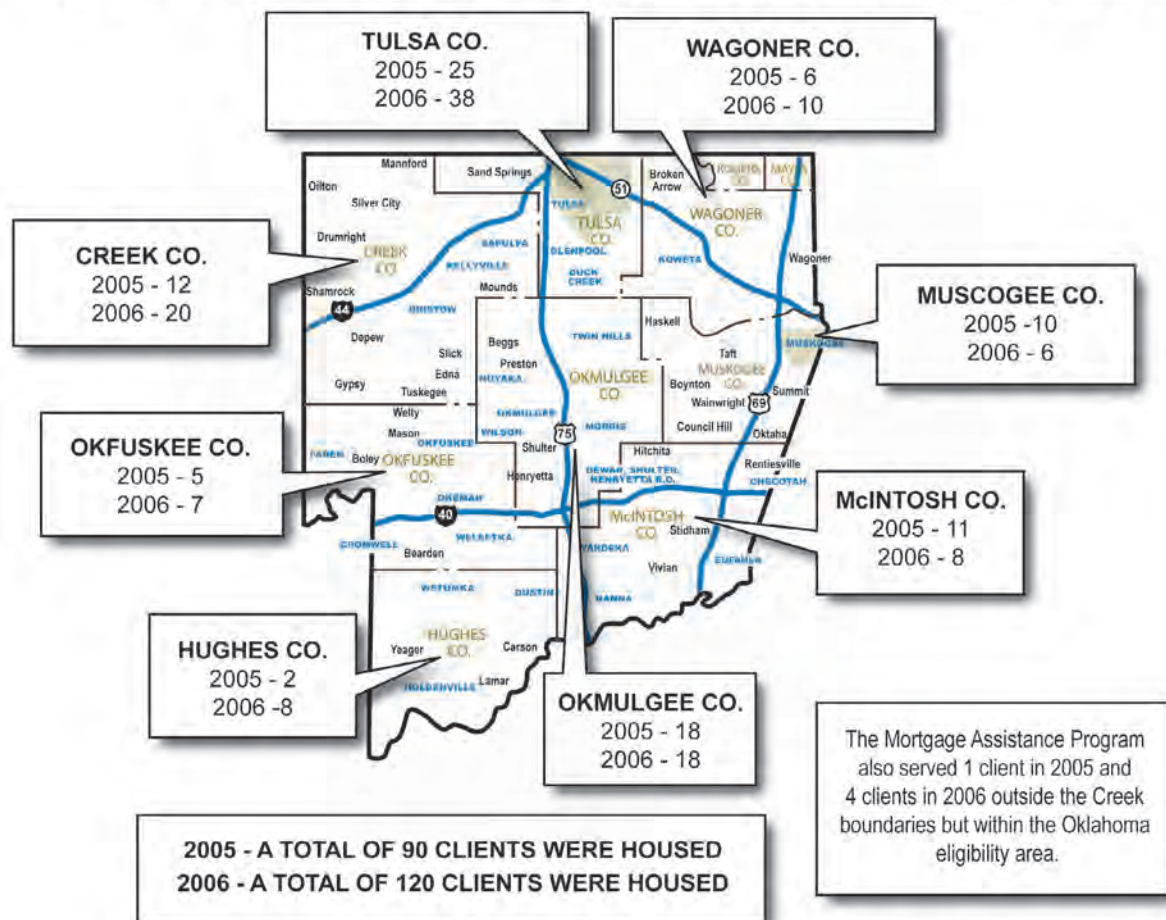
- Preference given to Creek Citizens.

Eligible clients may qualify for up to \$25,000.

MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION DIVISION OF HOUSING

NUMBER OF PEOPLE HOUSED IN 2005 AND 2006

These totals are a combination of New Construction, Acquisition, and the Mortgage Assistance Program



HOUSING EMPLOYEES

Housing Division employee retires from Okemah Rental Apartments

Housing recently held a dinner in honor of retiring Housing employee Simeon Johnson. Simeon worked 11 years at the Affordable Rent apartment site in Okemah. "I have enjoyed working for Housing and will miss the people I worked with and the residents I served," said Johnson. We at Housing would like to thank Simeon and wish him well on his retirement.



Contracting/Employment Opportunities

If you live in HUD assisted housing you may qualify as a section 3 resident or a section 3 business and may be eligible for contracting and/or employment opportunities. Please contact Mr. Alan Kelley at 918-752-3249 for more information.

2007 Elementary Challenge Bowl Winners

OKMULGEE -- The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Johnson O'Malley program held their elementary challenge bowl on November 1 at the First Baptist church.

The first place winners were the Hanna Elementary Dragons. Second place went to the Dewar Hoktes and finally the third place went to the Glenpool Crazy Warriors.

The sportsmanship award went to the Dewar Hoktes.

Congratulations to all the winners and everyone who participated

The middle school and high school will be held on November 15 & 16 at the First Baptist Church.



Elementary champions, Hanna Elementary Dragons



Second place winners, Dewar Hoktes



Third place winners, Glenpol Crazy Warriors

COLLEGENEWS

A.C.C.E.S. Club

by Nathan Anderson

The fall semester for the Haskell Alabama-Coushatta, Creek, Euchie and Seminole Club began with a welcome back picnic at Broken Arrow Park, located right off Haskell campus. The picnic included returning students, new students, faculty and staff. Everyone enjoyed visiting with old and new friends while eating hot dogs and hamburgers. The men got a game of stickball going in the park using a light pole and a tree as goals. The picnic was a great success and inspired the club to organize an exhibition stomp dance at the campus wide welcome back pow-wow the following Saturday, and a men's stickball game the following Sunday.

At the welcome back pow-wow the A.C.C.E.S. Club hit the pow-wow grounds and danced during the intermission between the gourd dance and grand entry. Participation was encouraged and the club got some support from the Haskell, Lawrence community when some local stomp dancers showed up to dance. The stomp dance went well and the A.C.C.E.S. club showcased the culture and the greatness of the people it represents. The week-end ended with a stickball game the following day. The men played well; there was a lot of hitting and a lot of scoring. In the end everyone walked away exhausted but in good spirits.

The club continued to have regular meetings until the week of football homecoming October 14th. Jonnie Sue Wesley, Creek, from Oklahoma represented the A.C.C.E.S. Club in the Homecoming Queen Pageant. Miss Wesley did very well as she presented herself as a beautiful, graceful and intelligent woman. During the homecoming week events the A.C.C.E.S. Club took second place in the chili cooking contest and second place in the homecoming parade float contest. The theme for the parade was "Honoring our warriors past, present and future". The club's float was a traditional Creek arbor; a stickball goal complete with the club's sticks

hanging from the goal. Last but not least, an actual fire. The club's stickball players walked in front of the float playing a game as they walked the parade route around campus. Riding on the float was Haskell staff member James Jones, Seminole USMC, and Monroe Lasley, Creek USAF.

On October 28 the A.C.C.E.S. Club was invited to join Bacone University in a day of Native American celebration. The club's men and women journeyed down to Muskogee, OK to play in a social stickball game. The men were victorious in a close, physical game. The club was invited to stay for the evenings events, which included a pow-wow held by the Bacone Native American Student Association.

Halloween night the A.C.C.E.S. Club participated in the Haskell annual Halloween carnival. The club had a stickball ball toss game for the kids. Candy and toy prizes were given to the kids who could make the ball into one of four baskets. Club member Sena Harjo won the costume contest. The carnival was a lot of fun and most importantly the kids a great time.

Currently the A.C.C.E.S. Club has regular meetings on Thursdays at 5 p.m. in Stidham Union. Haskell and A.C.C.E.S. Alumni Jason Sawyer has arranged for Creek language lessons to be offered on Tuesdays in the library. These language lessons are non-college credit and usually consist of A.C.C.E.S. members, Haskell staff and Lawrence community Creek speakers. Our goal is to hold on to our native language. The club is working on a banquet to be held at the end of November to honor the fall graduates, community elders and Creek council member Bill Jones.

This Haskell student organization is one of the most active and influential on campus. The success of these students comes from God, the support of their families, the great leadership of the club's sponsor, and the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. Mvto.

Tribal College officially moves into new location

OKMULGEE -- The College of the Muscogee Nation (CMN) recently acquired their new offices, located at 600 N. Mission in Okmulgee, on Tuesday, November 8, 2006.

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill offered a special blessing for the new home of CMN. Also in attendance was CMN Interim President Dr. Pete Cosar, Dr. James King, Sharon Mouss, Robert Bible, Diana Blackwell, Angela Bunner, Bruce

Douglas Curriculum Specialist, Blue Clark, Dr. Robert Klabenes, President-OSU-Okmulgee Muscogee Creek Nation Executive Branch Chief of Staff Mike Flud, Executive Director Claude Sumner and Language Program Norma Marshall.



Pictured left to right: back - Mike Flud, Robert Bible, Dr. Pete Cosar, Dr. James King, Dr. Robert Klabenes, Claude Sumner, Second Chief Alfred Berryhill; front: Bruce Douglas, Sharon Mouss, Diana Blackwell, Angela Bunner and Norma Marshall

The College of the Muscogee Nation, Okmulgee is the Muscogee Nation Tribal College initiative created by an act of the Muscogee Nation National Council (NCA 04-151, NCA

05-072) and signed into law by Principal Chief A.D. Ellis on September 1, 2004. The CMN will become a fully accredited freestanding institution-offering Associate's Degrees in Arts, Science and Applied Science.

Through collaboration with the Oklahoma State University system, the college currently offers a variety of general education and tribally related courses at both OSU-Okmulgee, and OSU-

Oklahoma City. Associate Degrees in Gaming, Tribal Services, and Native American Studies with specializations in Mvskoke Language are offered through the partnership with OSU-Okmulgee and with OSU-OKC. The tribal college offers a degree in Police Science.

For more information about the College of the Muscogee Nation call (918) 758-1480.

THOUGHTS FROM THE BOARD OF REGENTS CHAIR

Ramona Mason, College of the Muscogee Nation

The Board of Regents for Mvskoke Etlwlv Nakcokv Svhlwecvt was put in place January, 2005, one year and 9 months ago.

Often when I am called to speak about the tribal college I use a phrase that explains how the Regents and Staff are working to develop the tribal college. "It is like we are building a car and driving it at the same time." I explain that we all got into this vehicle -the College of the Muscogee Nation, and began our journey toward accreditation; the North Central Region of The Higher Education Commission- putting the parts together as we drive. Imagine how difficult that is but as we continue on our journey we make progress toward achieving our goal.

Did you know that only 2 % of the freshman that enroll in one of the state colleges graduate? Something is apparently wrong. We truly believe our students are capable of graduating from an institution of higher learning; however, as with any student- institutional support is needed if more students are to graduate.

The Board of Regents and tribal college goal is to support our students as they pursue their degrees and to increase the retention rate of our Native Americans by graduating a greater percent. We are striving to build a college, sensitive and welcoming to Native students. Non-Native are encouraged to attend, as well. All students at the tribal college will develop and increase their knowledge base by learning valuable facts about Mvskoke Etlwlv and Native America. Too often our perspective on history is overlooked or distorted and our college is a place where accurate and reliable information will be taught.

I have heard that the College of the Muscogee Nation is the best investment our Nation can make and I know this is true. My dream is to see graduates coming back to work for the tribe; working in vital offices of our government; knowing that our college was the stepping stone for Native people to compete in the corporate world on a level equal to that of graduates from any college or university.

Today it is necessary to have a degree to obtain a viable opportunity in the work force. Mvskoke Etlwlv Nakcokv Svhlwecvt will prepare our students for achievement.

Ramona Mason, okisce.

Free Money For College

by Tara Peris

Every year, millions of students seek out free money for college. As higher education becomes essential in the workplace, a growing number of people search for ways to put college within financial reach. In order to stand out from the pack, you'll have to learn a thing or two about the financial aid process and how to make it work for you.

The benefits of a college education are well recognized. People who graduate from college often enjoy higher professional status compared to their peers with only a high school diploma. On average, they will make twice as much money across the lifespan and enjoy greater career satisfaction, job security, and future prospects. Moreover, they will be more likely to get raises and to be offered new career opportunities.

The benefits of higher education, however, extend well beyond professional attainment. For decades, scientific research has demonstrated that people who graduate from college are less likely to suffer from routine physical illness and more likely to maintain stable living conditions. In addition, college graduates tend to have higher self-esteem and are more likely to have children with high levels of academic achievement.

Finding Funds

These favorable correlates underscore the importance of higher education. Increasingly, college degrees are becoming less of a professional edge and more of a personal necessity. Simply put, employers are requiring higher levels of academic achievement simply to enter the workplace. If you

want a shot, you'll come prepared.

For most people, recognizing the need for higher education is not the problem; it's paying for it that is. The cost of a college education continues to skyrocket, with private colleges averaging around \$28,000 a year. Public universities, although substantially more affordable have witnessed record tuition hikes over the past decade as well.

Rising costs and growing public need for education have created a climate in which millions look for college funds each year. Some estimates suggest that as many as 15 million people will look for funding via scholarships, loans, grants, and work aid programs. In order to have a shot at the best packages, you must educate yourself about the financial aid process and employ the right approach.

An Edge on the Competition

Scholarships do exist, but it's a matter of finding them. It's all too easy to get bogged down in an Internet search that yields literally thousands of results. You need to hone in on viable aid solutions efficiently, and you must know how to avoid the scams that run rampant on the Internet.

These challenges make it imperative that you take the time to educate yourself thoroughly about the funding process. Consider using a financial aid specialist who can help you find the specific scholarships and loans that are most likely to meet your needs. This will save you considerable time and will ensure a financially smooth, successful transition to college.

HUD - 184 Native American

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Higher Education accepting application for Spring 2007

OKMULGEE -- The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Higher Education Department is accepting new applications for the Spring 2007 semester. The closing date is December 15.

Those interested may download the applications at http://www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov/humandeve/hum_higeredu/hum_higheredu_proinfo.htm Individuals may apply for the Higher Education Scholarship (need-based) and the Tribal Grant. Applicants must be a current college student or prospective student planning to attend during the spring term. Renewal forms will

be sent in March, 2007 to the continuing students on the program and need not apply.

If you are currently a High School student you may apply during the second semester of your senior year and before June 1, 2006.

The Higher Education staff encourages tribal members to pursue a college education. This is one of the best ways to challenge your potential and earn a respectable place in society and our tribe.

For further information, please contact the Higher Education Department at P O Box 580, Okmulgee, OK 74447 or (918) 732-7689 04 7690.



Native American History Series: Myths & Scientific Facts

by Judge Patrick E. Moore

Native inhabitants of the North and South American continents were the subject of great interest in Europe as soon as Columbus returned with news of his discovery of the Americas. Spanish explorers had known of the orient for centuries, traded with the far east and had first hand knowledge of the different languages and general physical appearance of oriental people.

Those Native Americans Columbus enslaved and transported to Spain in 1492 did not look oriental nor did they speak any of the far eastern languages. These dark complexioned, feathered people were occupied to be the occupants of a mysterious land that had been isolated from all other forms of mankind for eons and thus began the use of the term "New World" when Europeans referred to the islands and later continents to the west across the Atlantic Ocean.

The Spanish European of 1492 thought Native Americans to be very primitive, appearing to be barbaric and savage not at all like the so called civilized orientals.

Immediately there was discussion as to the origin of these newly discovered people.

By the early 19th Century a European noble, Lord Kingsborough, had determined that Native Americans were in fact the lost Ten Tribes of Israel and many other academics at that time attempted to show the semblance between some

Native American customs and certain Hebrew ceremonies.

Captain G. Palmer described a Native American spiritual leader in 1879 as follows " The Indian high-priest wears a breastplate made of a white conch-shell and around his head either a wreath of swan feathers or a long piece of swan skin, doubled so as to show only the snowy feathers on each side. These remind us of the breast plate and mitre of the Jewish high priest. They have also a magic stone which is transparent, medicine men consult this magic stone and it is jealously guarded, even from their own people.

We were never able to purchase or trade for a magic stone. They have a ceremony of first fruits at which they celebrate with songs and dances. They dance in three circles round a fire shouting praises to God".

Today it is universally accepted Native Americans occupied North and South American and the surrounding Islands for such a long time before Colombus that their residency here can only be measured by reference to geological time periods.

Scientists using geological time periods to establish human occupation of the Americas discovered that multiple civilizations evolved in both hemispheres at the same time.

From a scientific standpoint there is one very important animal group missing from the Americas, the highly organized primates of the

Asian and African continents.

There are no great apes nor great ape fossil remains anywhere in the Americas. This apparent lack of great apes in the Americas supports a generally accepted hypothesis that North and South America began to be populated by the human being, traveling on foot or by boat, in either one early migration or several early migrations over a period of many thousands of years as permitted by glaciation.

Geologists have evidence there was a land bridge, connecting the Eastern and Western hemispheres, at least thirty miles wide that developed sometime after the Cenozoic Era, Tertiary Period, or Miocene Epoch (2 million years ago). This land bridge, across what is now the Bering Strait, was exposed several times during at least four Ice Ages and was available for human foot traffic several times beginning 100,000 years ago.

Paleontologists have discovered pre-Columbian bones on the floor of a cave located on a remote island off the coast of Alaska, these ancient bones have been scientifically radiocarbon dated to be over 40,000 years old. Some scientists now believe that North and South America was inhabited by migratory waves of humans who moved across the Bering Strait land bridge at different times during these Ice Ages, the last of which occurred over 10,000 years ago. There also exists the possibility of migrations by water from what is now southern Europe over 40,000 years ago. The debate goes on with new discoveries almost daily relating to pre-Columbian human activity in the Americas.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

ALBUQUERQUE — On the last fall day, according to the weather not the calendar, I'd been inside working at my desk: the kitchen table. My spirit kept urging me outside. I kept working. Strange, a black cloud of a thought struck from apparently nowhere. See, my spirit told me, I told you to leave the house and go outside. I pulled on my jacket and went out to the early evening. The sun was brushing the tops of the red and yellow trees. I walked and walked. I let go of thinking and felt the earth. Down the way I visited a couple of young ponies. They asked me to pick some apples for them on a tree across from their stalls. We all had to stretch over the electric fence to share. We visited a bit. When I went back I was renewed; I cleaned the house out.

I began to consider the source of the thought that suddenly appeared, like a fast, hard storm. Some things emerge from within, from an accumulation of doubts or fears. Some of the accumulation comes from family or ancestral actions, memory. My brothers have a tendency toward the blues, like me. I've learned it's easier to acknowledge, sing about it and let it go. I used to fight or be sunk.

One of my recurring dreams I traced to an event that happened a century and a half ago to a Mvskoke relative. The event was quite charged which was why, I figured, it stayed around for awhile. We all carry these memories within us. Some are from just yesterday, some from our relatives. Often we are influenced by someone else's positive or negative intentions. Sometimes they are deliberate, sometimes we just happen to walk through someone's path.

One morning I was in a spin cycle class in a gym. I'd had a good workout. (I'm convinced that walking on the earth, working out has the effect of spinning off some of the junk build up of too much thinking.) We were cooling down. I suddenly wanted a doughnut. Now I don't usually eat doughnuts because if I do then I don't want just one. There's something incredible (and addicting) about that particular concoction of fat, flour and sugar. So I questioned the thought. Where did it come from? I had no thought of doughnuts. I then saw the source of the thought. It was the man next to me. He was heading out to buy a doughnut after class. This small revelation had quite an effect. I began to question the source of my thoughts. And I began to pay attention to what I was putting out into the world. It's an ongoing process.

Our Mvskoke tribe could be considered a thinking and dreaming person of sorts. How are we thinking of ourselves? How do we go forth in the world?

Another question has come up recently. In my class we have been reading the work of a Yaqui deer singer and writer, Felipe Molina. In an interview he talks of "Yaqui-ness". I began to question what makes "Mvskoke-ness". Your thoughts? E-mail me at nativesax@yahoo.com. I'll report the responses.

I heard from tribal member Tony Fields. He used to work at the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe. I hadn't seen him around lately. He's now in Washington D.C. because his wife got a job at NMAI, the National Museum of the American Indian. He's going to be giving a talk in a few weeks on the Trail of Tears at the Holocaust Museum.

Last week as I changed planes in the Dallas Fort Worth Airport I ran into Doug Sapulpa who was on his way to a high school reunion in Sapulpa. We were both a little groggy from early flights, his from Sacramento, mine from Albuquerque. We

commiserated for awhile over coffee and tea. His brother Owen was the last member of his family I'd seen in this airport. I had been pounding on a stamp machine that had taken my last change when I looked over and there was Owen who I've always admired for his self-possession. Doug and I laughed about it. There's always someone watching, I reminded myself after that embarrassment. Self-possession is worth more than the cost of a stamp, and the hassle of not getting a bill in on time because you don't have a stamp. Mvto, Doug for the visit that morning. It made my trip flow smoother.

And finally, Mvskoke citizen Bob Hicks is featured on the cover and with an interview on an online Renaissance Indian Magazine, at www.renaissanceindian.com.

Bob Hicks was born in a barn in Okmulgee County, Oklahoma, on Feb. 5, 1934. His mother, Ella Scott, and his father, Robert Hicks, were married, Bob says, "in an Indian way." He left Oklahoma in 1979 for Hollywoodland and was in the film industry for many years. He was often the only Indian, and almost always the only Creek. He saw the industry shift from painting white people to act Indian roles, to the employment of real Indians. He made a number of contributions to the field, one as a founder of the organization First Americans in the Arts, which produces an annual awards show. Bob has moved back home to Oklahoma.

I'll close with an excerpt, (printed with permission of Harrison Lowe, editor and founder of the magazine, and another pioneering Indian [Navajo] in Hollywoodland):

"Everybody was suffering, so I thought this was how the world was," Bob says. "So for me, it was normal. My older brothers and my dad were lucky to go out and make \$3 a day. They worked on farms. He would plow and plant fields. We also picked cotton. When I was seven or eight years old, my momma made me a bag that I could drag along and put the cotton in. But I was not a good cotton picker."

Bob fell in love with movies in 1939. It was a good year for motion pictures; "Gone With the Wind," "The Wizard of Oz," "Wuthering Heights," "Some Like It Hot" and "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" were all released that year. But five-year-old Bob's tastes ran more toward westerns - movies like "Stagecoach," "Riders of the Sage" and "Destry Rides Again," which were also released that year.

"On Saturdays, we'd load up the wagon and go into Okemah," he recalls. "It was a town of only 2,000 people, but it had two movie theaters: The Jewel and The Crystal. The Crystal played love stories, which I didn't care for. But The Jewel played westerns, and I loved westerns." Back then movies were only a dime.

Bob's dad shared his love for movies, and they often went together to The Jewel: his dad sitting in the back row near the aisle, and Bob planted in the front row with his friends, cheering for the cowboys and the cavalry as they slaughtered the Indians.

"When I was a kid," Bob says, "I didn't have any role models in the movies who I could look up to and say, 'I want to be like that.'" The Indians were always portrayed as the bad guys, so I rooted for the cowboys. I was brainwashed. That kind of thing can leave a kid confused."

Many years later, Bob decided to do something about it. "Mvto, Bob, for all your hard work, your vision. You have mentored and helped many native actors, writers and performers, and have been a virtual one-man Indian center for many of us who landed there.

Cultural Activities in November

IAIA hosts Innovative workshop on grassroots tribal tourism

SANTA FE — The Achein Center for Lifelong Education, Research and Cultural Exchange (CLE) at Institute of American Indian Arts (IAIA) will host a three-day cultural tourism workshop, "Cultural Tourism Development Within Indian Country: An Integrated and Sustainable Development Approach," on Dec. 5-7, 2006 at the IAIA Campus located at 83 Avan Nu Po Road, Santa Fe,

Designed to address the unique economic development needs of tribal entities, the workshop will offer an innovative, three-day array of educational programs facilitating the development of sustainable cultural tourism models integrating American Indian traditions with development efforts that promote community preservation and inter-tribal cooperation.

During the three days of Cultural Tourism Development Within Indian Country: An Integrated and Sustainable Development Approach attendees

will network with key decision makers from the cultural tourism industry. Workshops and break-out sessions such as "Cultural Preservation - Planning and Development", "Involving Tribal Members in Tourism Development as Guides and Historians", "How to Develop Rural Tourism" and "Basic Marketing/Advertisement: Understanding Tourism Marketing" will explore the creation of tribal initiatives as well as innovative partnerships.

While geared toward the particular challenges encountered by tribes in the Southwest, this innovative conference will update and educate on all aspects of cultural tourism's impact and implementation throughout Indian Country. The CLE encourages tribal government authorities and any interested individuals to register by Nov. 27, 2006.

Special rates for overnight accommodations are available. The registration fee is \$150 before Nov. 27

and \$200 after Nov. 27.

For more information contact Pamela Mahooty, of CLE at (505) 424.2387 or pmahooty@iaia.edu. Printable conference agendas and registration forms can be found on www.iaia.edu.

Koweta Fall Powwow

COWETA — The Koweta Fall Powwow will be held November 18 at the First United Methodist Church, located at 206 W. Sycamore.

The gourd dance will begin at 2 p.m., supper will start at 5 p.m. and the War Dance begins at 6 p.m.

The head staff includes: emcee, Archie Mason; head gourd dancer, Luther "Bunny" Factor; head man, Karl Beaston; head lady, Patty Beaston; head singer, Jeremy Barnett and arena directors, Dewayne Cahwee and Rick Tucker.

For more information, contact Martha Squire at (918) 486-4944.



Hickory Ground Mekko George Thompson: "Children cannot get the experience out of books or presentations in the classroom. They could and should get the full effect of the experience at the actual ground." Arbeka Mekko Raymond Meeley: "It gets better every year and I looks forward to this yearly event. (See collage on B4/B5)

SSA Public Affairs Specialist in OKC

Pictured from left to right: Willie Randall and Lawrence Kabeah

No dates have been scheduled for the upcoming events. Contact, Jackson Barnett at (918) 732-7723 for addition informtion and dates.

This forum will be presented

Lunch will be served to all those who attend at noon. Everyone is welcome to attend.

By the way, Social Security has issued its latest cost of living adjustment for 2007 which will be 3.3 percent. That will increase the average Social Security benefit check for American Indians about \$33 per month.

Larry G. Jones is a Public Affairs Specialist with the Social Security Administration in Oklahoma City.



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ChurchActivities

Clothing Giveaway

SAPULPA — New Joy Baptist Church will be having a Clothing Giveaway November 18. Beginning at 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with coats, sweat-ers and, pants in all sizes.

The church is located 1103 S. Main in Sapulpa. For more informa-tion, call Pastor Jimmy Alexander at (918) 322-5407 or Delbert Dunn at (918) 734-3802.

Thanksgiving Dinners

SAPULPA — New Joy Baptist Church will be having a Thanks-giving dinner November following services. Services Start at 11 a.m.. For more information contact Jim-mey Alexander at (918) 322-5407 or Delbert Dunn at (918) 734-3802.

New Joy is Located at 1103 S. Main in Sapulpla

HENRYETTA — Hickory Ground #2 will be having a Thanks-giving feast November 23. Services start at 10 a.m., morning speaker will be Allison Phillips. Dinner will

follow and services will resume with second speaker John Tulsa.

Hickory Ground #2 is Located at 9 miles southeast of Henryetta.

SCHULTER — Little Cussetah will be having a Thanksgiving din-ner November 19. Sunday School starts at 10:00, with services starting at 11 a.m. and dinner will follow.

Located on Prarie Bell Rd 3miles east of Okmulgee.

TWIN HILLS/BEGGS — Con-charty United Methodist will be having a Thanksgiving dinner No-vember 19. Sunday school starts at 10 a.m. and services will begin at 11 a.m. with dinner following.

Concharty is located 4 miles north of hwy 16, on Bixby rd, and 1 mile east.

Fall Carnival Update

HENRYETTA — New Begin-nings Baptist Church celebrated Halloween with a “Hallejuah Night,”

Muscogee, Seminole and Wichita Association 4th Sunday Dates

Alabama Cedar Spring Cold Spring Forest Creek Mission Hutchachuppa Little Coweta Little Quarsarty Many Springs Okmulgee Prairie Spring Spring Weogufkee West Eufaula Yardeka Quarsada Alabama	Artusse Bemo Beaver Bird Creek Deep Fork Hillabee Hickory Ground #2 Hillabee Mekusukey Middle Creek #2 Montesoma Okfuskee Pigeon Sand Creek Eufaula Silver Spring Tulmochussee Wetumka	Baptist S.S. Mission Butler Creek Cedar Creek Cedar Creek Eufaula Grave Creek Greenleaf Nuyaka New Joy Ross Mission Sand Creek Sand Spring Thewarthle Tookparfka Tuskegee Seminole Arbeka Wekiwa Wewoka	Arbeka Big Arbor Cedar River Hickory Ground #1 High Spring (Okemah) High Spring (Konawa) Little Cussetah Middle Creek #1 New Arbor Randall Rock Spring Salt Creek Snake Creek #1 Snake Creek #2 Seminole Baptist Vian Creek Trenton
October 1 October 29 November 26 December 24	October 8 November 5 December 3 December 31	October 15 November 12 December 10 January 7, 2007	October 22 November 19 December 17 January 14, 2007

October 28. With drawings, games, a chilli cook off, and a four division Halloween Costume Contest.

Prizes ranged from t-shirts to gift certificates. With free hotdogs, chilli, and frito pies.

Winners included: Kareffren D. Bagby Jr., 1st place winner in the

infant division; Alissa Buckley, 1st place winner of the children’s divi-sion; Ashton Taylor, 1st place win-ner of the Teenage division; and Geneva Bair, 1st place winner of the adult division in the costume con-test.

First place winner for the Chil-

li cook was Karen Murphy, winning a \$30.00 gift card to the Oil Pit.

New Beginnings Baptist Church welcomes everyone with Sunday school starting at 10 a.m. and worship service starting at 11 a.m. with Pastor Walter Taylor, Jr.

Insufficient Addresses

The following Tribal Registered voters are urged to contact the Creek Nation Election Board to up-date their address. Call 1 (800) 482-1979 or (918) 732-7684, 7685 and 7631.

Abbott, Andy Russell
Acheson, Marilyn
Acreea(Ollie), Dora
Adair, Harold D.
Adams (Rinehart), Paula
Adams III,Willie S.
Adams, Brian H.
Adams, Lauren M.
Adams, Mark Stefan
Adams, Nancy Muriel
Adams, Neal V.
Ade, David Stacey
Adkins, Marguel
Adkins, Stella P.
Adolph, Gregory L.
Adolph, Jeffery E.
Adsit, Ronald
Agent (Post), Samantha
Agnes, Ruth Randall
Aguilar (White), Rachel
Ahtone, Eloise
Akins (Lout), Cynthia
Alcorn, Latonya Quinn
Aldoph, Lysle Dee (Jr.)
Alexander, Alex (Jr.)
Alexander, Cari Marie
Alexander, Debra K.
Alexander, George S.
Alexander, James A.
Alexander, Lewis E.
Alexander, Myra Ruth
Alexander, Robert
Alexander, Robert L.
Alexander, Summer B.
Alexander, Willie T.
Allen (Tiger), Melissa
Allen, Adrienne
Allen, Bluford W.
Allen, Byron Dean
Allen, Carl R.
Allen, Kenneth E.
Allen, Raymond S.
Allen, Shereen L.
Allison, Robert R.
Allsbrooks, Jamie E.
Alsup (Ralston), Velma
Alsup, Clyde F.
Alterman, Peggy D.
Alwert, Canuky A.
Amador, Winnona
Anderson, Bennie Jerry
Anderson, Derrick E.
Anderson, Joseph W.
Anderson, Karen L.
Anderson, Kathryn A.
Anderson, Michael Jon
Anderson, Patricia Ann
Anderson, Robert C.
Anderson, Robin L.
Anderson, Solomon K.
Anderson, Steven D.
Anderson, Susan D.
Anderson, Victor R.
Anderson, Zachariah J.
Anglen(Lewis), Marlene
Anglen, Michael W.
Anglen, Tracy Mark
Ansiel, Billy J.
Ansiel, Billy J.(Jr.)
Ansiel, Charles A.
Ansiel, Earnest Wayne
Ansiel, Floyd C.
Anspaw, Carrie W.
Apple, James C.
Apple, Mildred L.
Applegate, Pamela G.
Aquino, Domingo A.
Aquino, Ricardo M. (Jr.)
Arbuckle, Carol A.
Archer, Byron L.
Archer, Clyde Marshall
Archer, Clyde Morton
Archer, Doni Kaye
Archer, Jerry D.
Archer, Leroy W.
Archer, Mark Ashley
Archer, Melissa J.
Archer, Randall M.
Armour, Sonya Lashon
Arnett (Sullins), Tenia
Arpoika, Bobby I.
Arpoika, Brad Lee
Arpoika, Brad Lee
Arpoika, Lenda Fay
Arzola(Keller), Sherri
Asbury, Charles E.
Asbury, Lillian J.
Ashmore, Yvette M.
Ashton, Dyanna Lee
Asimenu, Janeth K.
Atkins (Miller), Kathy
Atkins, William N.(Jr.)

Beaty, Rozan
Beaver, Dane K.
Beaver, Deborah Anna
Beaver, Edgar E.
Beaver, Jody N.
Beaver, Lisa D.
Beaver, Shelton O.
Beaver, Ward Allen Sr.
Bell (Kelley), Mary
Bell, Martha Sue
Bellamy, Robert J.
Bemore, Pamela G.
Ben, Betty Jo
Benardello, Jennie L.
Bender, Samantha Jean
Benedict, Jessica E.
Benn, Samantha J.
Bennefield, Harold P.
Bennett, Cassandra
Bennett, Myrtle M.
Bennett, Sammy L.
Bennett, Sandra K.
Benson, Billie D.
Benson, Kyleen S.
Benton, Lillian Y.
Berg (Barnett), Cindy
Berry, John Wesley
Berry, Lanita Lynn
Berryhill, Aaron D.
Berryhill, Adrian A.
Berryhill, Allen Duel
Berryhill, Billy E.
Berryhill, Brett W.
Berryhill, Charles E.
Berryhill, Charles R.
Berryhill, Emma
Berryhill, Garry E. (Jr.)
Berryhill, Harold J.
Berryhill, Jerry D.
Berryhill, John William
Berryhill, Larry Mose
Berryhill, Loren W.
Berryhill, Louise Marie
Berryhill, Mark D.
Berryhill, Michael D.
Berryhill, Peggy J.
Berryhill, Richard A.
Berryhill, Shirley A.
Berryhill, Walter S.
Berryhill, Woodrow
Beshear, David W.
Best, John H.
Bethel, Pearl M.
Bettis (Hilton), Mildred
Bevenue, Donnie
Bevenue, John
Bevenue, Joseph K.
Bevenue, Melissa M.
Bevenue, Yvonne M.
Bezzell, Gloria Ann
Bialock, Richard A.
Bible, Matthew C.
Biermann, Mary L.
Bigler, Michael David
Bigpond, Bruce Elwood
Bigpond, Carolyn Sue
Bigpond, Gregory Gene
Bigpond, Jason Mario
Bigpond, Ronald R.
Bigpond, Jeanine Amy
Bigpond, John Thomas
Bigpond, Karl Darren
Bigpond, Martin E.
Bigpond, Thomas V.
Billen, Charles I.
Billhimer, Carolyn
Billie, Remona L.
Billings, Robert W.
Billy, Franklin T.
Bingham, Tammy L.
Bingman, Brooks Earle
Bird, James Edward Bird-creek, Cravens
Birdcreek, Amos B.
Birdcreek, Donna S.
Birdcreek, Jo Ann
Birdcreek, Stanley E.
Birdsong, Thomas P.
Bishop (Cooper), Karen
Black, Carolyn R.
Blackwell (Pegg), Janie
Blackwell, Douglas A.
Buckley, Lori Lynn
Blackwell, Phoebe Mae
Blankenship, Dempsey
Blankenship, Donald D.
Blankenship, Linda L.
Blankenship, Ricky W.
Block, Margaret C.
Boen, Jasper Fern
Boen, Lillie Mae
Boerstler, Darrell L.
Boneau, Kathryn J.
Bonner, Gary
Bonner, Ronald S.
Bonner, Sterling Jr.
Boone, Sara Beth
Booth, Larry J.
Booth, Sara J.
Border, Peggy P.
Borthick, Clydette M.

Bosin, Sandra L.
Bouchie, Kristy L.
Boujaoude, Margaret
Bowen, Leslie D.
Bowers, Donna E.
Bowman, James Grant
Boyd, Anita Jane
Boyle, Barbarba
Bradford, Lillie
Bradshaw, Valerie A.
Bradwell, Kristie A.
Brady, Mary A.
Brandon, Barry W.
Brasuell, Perry C.
Brasuell, Stephen J.
Bratcher, Georgialene
Burks, Phyllis Ann
Burley (Byard), Lisa
Burns, Amelia J.
Burns, George Alvin (Jr)
Burris (Harris), Martha
Burris, Curtis W.
Burson, Connie
Burton, Jimmy L.
Bush (Reynolds), Elvia
Bush, Marilyn G.
Bushouse, Pamela J.
Bushyhead, Kathleen
Butler, Cory Wynn
Butler, Matthew Ray
Butler, Randall G.
Byrd (Watson), Wanda
Byrd, Belinda I.
Byrd, Gnetta F.
Byrum, Maria Elaine
Cable (Vail), Jo Ann
Cadion, Jacqueline E.
Caesar,Alphonso
Cahwee, Larry Joe
Cain (Plum), Tracia A.
Caldwell, Jerra G.
Calvert, Michael T.
Camp, Bonita J.
Campbell, Clay I.
Campbell, Ian M.
Campbell, Shelley D.
Canard, Curtis L.
Canard, Gwyn Mary
Canard, Joe Kinsley
Canard, Mary Gwyn
Canard, Robert Lee
Canard, Roger V.
Cantrell, Billy Gene (Jr.)
Cantrell, Billy Gene(Sr.)
Cantrell, Ladonna L.
Carden, Monte D.
Carey, John C.
Carey, Sandra Lee
Cargil, Bobby Eugene
Cargil, Janet Lee
Cargil, Pamela Jayne
Carman, Lonnie C. Sr.
Carnell, Jimmy Dell
Carnell, Mary Katherine
Carpenter, Jeanie
Carpenter, Michael
Carpenter, Robert D.
Carr, George W.
Carr, Lenayle D.
Carroll, Stacie P.
Carson, Dana W.
Carter (Harris), Delores
Carter, Delores
Carter, Mable I.
Carter, Michelle R.
Case, Anthony W.
Case, Maurice W.
Casey, Leonard W.
Casey, Pat Rockne
Casey, Patricia A.
Cassaday (Hill), Rhonda
Castle, Betty J.
Castro, Larry D.
Cater, Richard L.
Cater, William B.
Catland, Barbara J.
Caudill, Peter Ian
Caywood, Melissa A.
Chalakee, Billy W.(Jr.)
Chalakee, Kenneth W.
Chalakee, Theron Layne
Chalakee, Tommy L
Chamberlain, Marion P.
Chandler, Jimmy Lynn
Chandler, Linda P.
Chaney, Christopher R.
Chaney, Jackson S.
Chase, Walton C.
Chastain, Jason A.
Chastain, Michelle N.
Checotah, Benjamin G.
Checotah, Etta M.
Checotah, Orvilon
Checotah, Roman (Jr.)
Checote, Sky C.
Cheek, Dawn A.
Cheek, Tim Wayne
Cheote, Johnnie L.
Chesser, Natalie Dawn

Bunner, Angela Dawn
Bunner, Cheryl B.
Bunner, Kenneth M.
Bunner, Patricia Sue
Burchett, Lynetta Jean
Burden, Alicia Dawn
Burgess III, Senora K.
Burgess, David K.
Burgess, Linden Phelix
Burgess, Nathaniel R.
Burgess, Nathaniel V.
Burgess, Phelix A.
Burgess, Randal Y.
Burgess, Raymond L.
Burgess, Robert Craig
Burgess, Susan Marie
Burkhart (Robison), Lea
Burks, Phyllis Ann
Burley (Byard), Lisa
Burns, Amelia J.
Burns, George Alvin (Jr)
Burris (Harris), Martha
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Checotah, Orvilon
Checotah, Roman (Jr.)
Checote, Sky C.
Cheek, Dawn A.
Cheek, Tim Wayne
Cheote, Johnnie L.
Chesser, Natalie Dawn

Childers, Daniel C.
Childers, Mark S.
Childress (Tiger), Lucy
Childress, Michael R.
Chisholm, Frank Jr.
Chisholm, Linda Sue
Chissoe, Michele M.
Chissoe, Sam Junior
Chotkey, Billy
Christian, Etta Mae
Christiansen, Michael R.
Christianen, Patrick
Christy ethal), LindaCump-co, Sammy D.
Chupco, Johnny Ray
Cindle, Randy Allen
Clark (Fisher), Tamra
Clark (Hardin), Roxanne
Clark, Bessie A.
Clark, Billye June
Clark, Latoya Renee
Clark, Michael Allen
Clark, Paula Sue
Clark, Penny J.
Clark, Sheril A.
Clary (Berryhill), Ruth
Clayton, Kevin E.
Cleary (Logan), Regina
Clements (Brown), Lois
Clemmer, Elizabeth J.
Clester, Linda L.
Clifton, Debra K.
Clifton, Dianna L.
Cline, Joel Cotton
Cline, Shirley A.
Clinton Jr., Woodrow
Clinton, Gary G.
Clinton, William Amos
Cloud (Robuby), Leah
Cloud (Holberts), Lucy
Cloud, Latisha Renee
Cloud, Mark D.
Cloud, Mark S.
Cloud, Rodney E.
Clubb (Covey), Alice
Clubb, Alice A.
Coachman, Agnes
Coachman, Brenda S.
Coachman, Charles M.
Coachman, David James
Coachman, James P.
Coachman, Joseph D.
Coachman, Willa M.
Cobb, Youvon Linell
Coburn, Charles D. (Jr.)
Coburn, Kimberly Kay
Cocharan, Brenda K.
Cody (Rose), Jenny
Coffin (Brooks), Lolita
Coffman, Karen F.
Coker, Katrina M.
Coker, Thomas E. (Jr.)
Colbert, Charles R.
Cole, Aaron L.
Cole, Bobbie L.
Cole, Jack L.
Cole, James M. (Jr.)
Cole, Jamie Lee
Cole, Margaret L.
Cole, Susan A.
Cole, Theresa L.
Coleman, Leona T.
Coleman, Steve M.
Combs, Beulah
Combs, Doreen Levern
Combs, Harold B.
Combs, Marcus L.
Combs, Melvin L.
Combs, Robert K.
Comptom, Richard Beau
Compton, Crystal Gail
Compton, Diana Joyce
Condreay, Maude E.
Condry, Elizabeth Irene
Conley, Oscar L.
Conn, Minnie R.
Conrad, Millicent W.
Cook Scot D.
Cook, Camela Christine
Cook, Jacqueline
Cook, Joyce M.
Coon, Arthur (Jr.)
Coon, Lula Mae
Cooper(Hutchins)/Sandra
Cooper, Billy
Cooper, Brandon David
Cooper, Christopher J.
Cooper, Cranford W.
Cooper, David L.
Cooper, Herbert Lynn
Cooper, James Emmett
Cooper, John Tyrus
Cooper, John Wiley
Cooper, Johnny Gordon
Cooper, Lucinda Kay
Cooper, Lyndel L.
Cooper, Mary Nancy
Cooper, Matthew Daniel
Cooper, Neeta Raynae

Cooper, Sam
Cooper, Sandra Lou
Coots, Mark A.
Copeland, Lisa L.
Copland, Michael R.
Cornfeld, Thelma
Cottrell, Cindy L.
Couch, Jack C.
Coulter, Kathy D.
Coursey, Dorless J.
Coursey, Richard J.
Courtemanche, Deborah
Cowan, Alice M.
Cowan, Carolyn Ann
Cowles, Agnes L.
Cowles, Jimmy W.
Cox, Jerry Edward
Cox, Laura S.
Cox, Winnie J.
Coyle, Bobby L.
Coyle, Elsie
Coyle, Jamie J.
Coyle, Randy A.
Craig, Lowell T. (Jr.)
Craig, Stanley Edwin
Craig, Suzanne Marciel
Crain, Ambia L.
Crawels, Mary Lou
Crawford, Debra A.
Crawford, Geraldine
Crawford, Linda C.
Crawford, Scotty S.
Crawford, Sylvia Dorine
Creek, Irene
Cricklin, David R.
Critzter, Mikela K.
Cron, Teresa M.
Croney, Marian Lee
Crook, Danetta A.
Crook, Leon Dee
Crosby, Shonna E.
Cross (Harris), Rebecca
Crounse, Jacqueline M.
Crowell, Marquette M.
Crowell, Thomas James
Crowels (Bosen), Nora
Crowels, David Paul
Crowels, Sheresa Lynn
Cruce, Alan Lee
Cruce, Anna Louise
Cruce, Anna Louise
Crumley, Wanda Ruth
Cruse, Carrie E.
Cruz, Cynthia Ann
Culberson, Bethel Jean
Culley, Angela C.
Culley, Jeffrey Wallace
Cully, Anna L.
Cunningham, Celease
Curry, Jerome H.
Curry, Ostencia M.
Curry, Patricia Lynn
Cutburth, Emma L.
Daniels, Lance S.
Daniels, Marsha Mae
Dark, Jan M.
Daugherty, Jennifer L.
Davidson, Oneawa Kay
Davis, Anthony P.
Davis, Billy
Davis, Christopher Lee
Davis, Dale Spencer
Davis, Don J.
Davis, Dortha Mae
Davis, Estelen
Davis, Glenn M.
Davis, Gwendolyn
Davis, Hugh N.
Davis, Linda F.
Davis, Mack (Jr.)
Davis, Martha K.
Davis, Mary M.
Davis, Meggie Ann
Davis, Mella M.
Davis, Michele J.
Davis, Nicole Rocelle
Davis, Oneil (Jr.)
Davis, Ramona Jean
Davis, Roy Lee
Davis, Steven Patrick
Davis, Tommy Gene
Davison, Ronald G.
Dawson, Mancia
Day, James H.
Day, Ora M.
Deacon, Denette A.
Dean, Rebecca Irene
Dean, Richard V.
Dearman, Johnnie R.
Dearman, Mary M.
Deaver, Sarah J.
Deer, Isaac
Deer, Tom Dean
Deere, Christopher C.
Deere, Dana M.
Deere, Kerry A.
Deere, Mord H.
Deere, Samuel R.
Deeringwater, Angela B.
Deerinwater, George E.

Deerinwater, Lisa Ann
Demry, Lacy D.
Denney, Melissa A.
Dennis, Beverly S.
Deo, Clarence Edward
Deo, Steven T.
Deroin, Debra C.
Determan, Freda
Dewoody, Margaret L.
Dice, Julia Ann
Dickerson, Crawford K.
Dickerson, Roosevelt S
Dickey (Fleet), Alice
Dickson (Jones), Velva
Diehl, Daniel S.
Digranes (Autry), Jo
Dixon, Dru S.
Dobbins, Michael R.
Dobson, Leah A.
Dobson, Mikel L.
Dodge, Charlotte D.
Doering, Linda A.
Dominic, John Freeland
Dorsey, Daniel T.
Dorsey, Gary N.
Doss (Sarty), Carol
Doss, Douglas S.
Doss, Reginald K.
Doss, Samson Wayne
Doss, Trac J.
Doty, Marjorie Earl
Douglas Jr., Raymond R
Douglas, Derek Dean
Douglas, Donna Delores
Douglass, David J.
Dover, Loretta Jane
Dowdy, Chad Wayne
Dowdy, Victor Max
Dowky, Tisha Dawn
Downing, Jacqueline
Doyle, Annalis
Doyle, Jeffrey
Doyle, Kevin Brett
Doyle, Shelley Doyle
Dozier, Junita
Drake, Ivan Jr.
Drew, Earl E.
Driscoll, Rosie L.
Drotos, Jennifer A.
Drywater, Jason L.
Dubose (Ceasar), Icy
Duncan, Donald G.
Duncan, Nancy J.
Duncan, Ronald D.
Dunford, Phillip D.(Jr.)
Dunham, Bessie L.
Dunham, Fred R.
Dunker, Sherry L.
Dunn, Donna J.
Dunn, Geraldine Marie
Dunn, Haden Michael
Dunn, Mark E.
Dunn, Martha Louise
Dunn, Vanis Eugene
Dunning, Betty Lou
Dunson, Anthony Lynn
Dunson, Daryl G.
Dunson, Gary
Dunson, Michael L.(Jr.)
Dunzy, Donnie
Durfee, Kelly L.
Durniak, Sharon M.
Durossette, Eldee
Durossette, Raymond C.
Durossette, Robert D.
Durossette, Rodney L.
Duttry, Evelyn Jane
Duvall, Darin L.
Duvall, Matthew G.
Dyer, Carl Mac
Dyer, Gregory Mac
Dyer, Jimmy Ray
Eads, Arron P.
Eads, Ira V.
Eakes, Vincent R.
Earnest, Tammy D.
Easley, Evelyn A.
Eason, Cynthia A.
Eastepp, Ina M.
Eastepp, Tommy L.
Ebahotubbi, Michelle D.
Echols, Michael R.
Edminsten, Monte
Edmondson, Leah Ann
Edwards, Donna Sue
Edwards, Elizabeth
Edwards, Kenneth L.
Edwards, Marion L.
Edwards, Richard (Jr.)
Eldridge, Sherry E.
Elliot, Sallye Elizabeth
Elliott (Yahola), Salye
Elliott, Joseph B.
Ellis, Vonda Kay
Ellsworth, Kristin G.
Elston Faith E.
Emerson, Shirley F.
Emery (Posey), Byron
Emrich, Deborah L.
Engelbert, Linda A.

BIRTHS

Nathan Raymoñe Duvall

OKMULGEE — Nathan Raymoñe Duvall was born September 10 at 7:52p.m. at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital to Danae Bible and Matt Duvall of Okmulgee.

He weighed 6 lbs. and 14 oz. and was 19 ¾ inches in length. Maternal grandparents are Shara Bible and David Bible of Okmulgee. Maternal great-grandparents are Helen Burgess of Okmulgee, Sam Bennett of Checotah, and the late JoAnne and Andy Bible of Glenpool.

Paterinal grandparents are Martha and Mark Duvall of Hitchita. Paterinal great-grandparents are the late Juanita Jo and Amos Jose Harjochee of Mason, and the late Georgia and Troy Duvall of Hitchita.



Makayla Ann Leybas

OKMULGEE — Makayla Ann Leybas was born July 4 to Michael Leybas Jr. and Cyndi Ayala.

She weighed 7 lbs. and 11 oz. and was 19 ½ inches in length. Paternal grandparents are Mike and Anita Leybas. Paternal great-grandmother is Juanita Checotah. Paternal grandfather is the late Thomas Chicoteh. Paternal great-grandparents are the late Lilian and Ben Leybas.

Maternal grandmother is Judy Ayala of Denver, CO. Maternal grandfather Juan Ayalas of Sacramento, CA. Maternal grandparents are Irene and Donald Letcher of Long Island, NJ. Maternal great grandmother is Iris Ayala of Long Island, NJ.



Jasmine Keva Washington

TULSA — Jasmine Keva Washington was born August 2 to Brenda GoodVoice and David Washington at St. Francis Hospital in Tulsa.

She weighed 5 lbs and was 18 1/2 inches in length. She is of the Creek, Cherokee and Rosebud Sioux tribes. Maternal grandparents are Sally Good Voice and the late Kenneth Goodvoice of Okmulgee.

Paternal grandparents are the late Lillian and Faldo Washington of Okmulgee.



Mike Anthony Piza

OKMULGEE — Mike Anthony Piza was born September 11 to Humberto and Kesha (Billy) Piza at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital.

He weighed 7 lbs and 7 oz. and was 21 inches in length and he is of the Tiger clan. His maternal grandparents are Ferndorff and Ester Billy Sr.



Joshua Samuel Cloud

OKMULGEE — Joshua Samuel Cloud was born April 28 to Kellie Renee Proctor at Okmulgee Memorial Hospital.

He weighing 7 lbs – 9 ounces and 19-inches in length. Maternal Grandparents are Georgia “Judy” Proctor and the late Billy Proctor.

Great-Grandparents are the late Pauline and Wiley Butler and Judy (Lasley) and Andy Proctor.



BIRTHDAYS

Chenoa Brooke Barnett

OKMULGEE — Chenoa Brooke Barnett turned two years old on Monday, October 23, 2006. She celebrated with a “Dora the Explorer” theme party at her home on Saturday, October 21, 2006 with sister, April and brother, Eco plus a host of family and friends.

Chenoa is the daughter of Stephanie Good Voice of Okmulgee and Roger Barnett of Bristow, Ok.

Her maternal grandparents are Sally Good Voice and the late Kenneth Good Voice of Okmulgee.

Her paternal grandparents are Rachel Barnett and the late Joseph Barnett of Bristow.

She is of the Raccoon Clan and Muscogee Creek/Rosebud Sioux descent.



Mikayla Lynn Buckley

OKMULGEE — Mikayla Lynn Buckley turned six on september 15th. She celebrated with a swimming party at the Henryetta Inn and Dome and a Dora the Explorer theme. In attendance was her sissy, parents, cousins, aunts, uncles, and friends.

She is an active member of Crosstown Pentecostal Church in Okmulgee as well as Beginnings Baptist Church in Henryetta and attends Kindergarten at Preston.

Mikayla is the daughter of Richard Buckley Jr. and Shelia Buckley of Okmulgee.

Maternal grandparents are Sally Taylor of Okmulgee and the late Walter Taylor Sr.

Paternal grandparents are Jackie Buckley of Weleetka and Richard Buckley Sr. of Clearview.



Josephine Marie Felix

OKMULGEE — Josephine Marie Felix celebrated her first birthday on Octber 14 with a “Princess” theme party, with friends and family.

Josie is the daughter of Erika Harjo and Jessie Felix. Maternal grandparents are Rachel and Jerry Sumka of Henryetta and the late Victor Harjo of Seminole.

Paternal grandparents are Sue and Ricky Bishop of Henryetta and Ron Felix of Sapulpa.

She is of Creek, Seminole, Cherokee, Choctaw and Yuchie descent, also she is of the Dear Clan and her tribal town is Thlopthlocco.



Kayla Tiger

SAPULPA — Kayla Tiger turned five on September 3rd. She celebrated with a party at F.T. Gibson Lake in Wagoner, OK. In attendance was her mother, brother Nick, nana Judy Bruner and Jim Fife.

Kayla also celebrated at a second party with her grandfather James Tiger and Shirley Tiger.

Kayla is the daughter of Sherry Tiger.



Jaebri Evonne Tottress

COWETA — Jaebri Evonne Tottress turned four years old on Monday, September 25th. She celebrated with a Care Bear theme party at home on Saturday, September 23rd with a host of family and friends.

Jaebri is the daughter of Kermitta Harris of Coweta and Johnathan Tottress of Henryetta, OK.

Her maternal Grandparents are Sharon and the late Kermit Harris, Sr. of Okmulgee, OK.

Her paternal Grandparents are Ivalene Tottress of Henryetta and John Tottress of Boynton, OK.



TaKoma Waggner

Henryetta – TaKoma Waggner turned 12 on November 06, 2006. His birthday was celebrated at home on Saturday, November 11, 2006 with family and friends.

After the celebration at home, TaKoma finished the evening with a fun night of bowling with his friends at FastLanes in Checotah. TaKoma is the son of BJ and Melany Waggner of Henryetta. He has two brothers, Nathan and DaKota as well as two sisters, MiKayla and Alyssa.

He is the grandson of Carla Baggs of Beggs, Jerry and Karen Powell of Henryetta, Bill and Karen Waggner of Tulsa and the great-grandson of Anna Baggs of Dewar.



Accomplishment

Terrence Tiger and Kaitlyn Factor

WELEETKA — Weleetka High School homecoming was held on October 6, 2006. Representing the Native American Club was Terrence Tiger and Kaitlyn Factor. Both students are in the 4th grade at Weleetka Elementary.

Terrence is the son of Carly Tiger, Okmulgee,OK. His maternal grandparents are Christine & the late David Durden of Morris, OK. His maternal great grandmother is Helen Tiger of Weleetka, OK.

Kaitlyn is the daughter of Daniel and Ellie Factor, Okemah, OK. Maternal grandparents are Elliot & Susanne Barnett and Della Proctor, all of Okmulgee. Maternal great grandparents are the late Austin and Mamie Barnett of Eufuala and the late Judy Lasley Proctor of Hanna. Paternal grandparents are Noah and Lucinda Factor of Okemah. Paternal great grandparents are Wilson and Ina Hicks, Okemah. She has 3 brothers, Josiah, Isaak and Kolby.

Kaitlyn plays fastpitch softball for Native Thunder in Okmulgee and OK Smoke in Broken Arrow. She attends Nuyaka Indian Baptist Church.



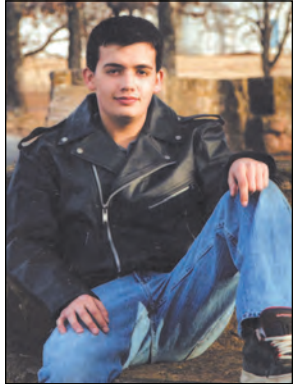
Derek Ryan McCoy

OLIVE — Derek Ryan McCoy graduated from Olive public school in May. He was on the Who’s who list of high school students for two years.

Derek celebrated his 18th birthday on August 15. He is currently attending Spartan school of aeronautics.

McCoy is a member of the beaver clan and attends Arbeka Methodist church.

He is the son of Luallyn McCoy and the grandson of Cornelius Frank.



Wedding

Stone and Clark

LAKE TAHOE, NV. — Desmond Stone and Debbie Clark were united in marriage on August 19.

Desmond is the son of Gerald and Betty Stone of Citrus Heights, California.

Debbie is the daughter of Neil and Mary Helen Clark of Sacramento.





**2006 Council Oak Tree Ceremony
Saturday, October 21, 2006 ~ 2 P.M
Council Oak Tree Park
18th Street & South Cheyenne Avenue - Tulsa, OK**



**One hundred and seventy six years ago, the first
Muscogee Creeks traveled across the land on
what has become known as the Trail of Tears.
They brought with them ashes of sacred
ceremonial fires from the ancestral homelands in
the southeast; and these ashes were spread
beneath the towering oak tree (now known as the
Council Oak) overlooking the Arkansas River. This
became the chosen site to establish the Loca Pokv
Tribal town which later became the city of Tulsa.**



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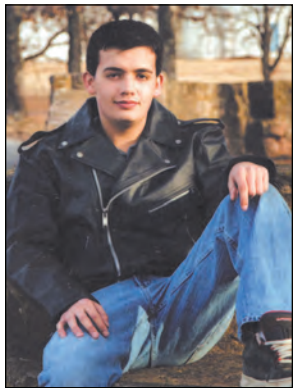
Derek Ryan McCoy

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He is the son of Luallyn McCoy and the grandson of Cornelius Frank.



Wedding

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LAKE TAHOE, NV. — Desmond Stone and Debbie Clark were united in marriage on Aug. 19.

Desmond is the son of Gerald and Betty Stone of Citrus Heights, California.

Debbie is the daughter of Neil and Mary Helen Clark of Sacramento.



CHARLOTTE AMOS

LITTLE OKLAHOMA — Funeral services for Charlotte Marie Amos were held October 30, at the First Free Will Baptist Church with Mike Harjo officiating.

Charlotte was born October 24, 1971 to Mitchell and Madeline Amos in Oklahoma City.

She graduated high school in Oklahoma City and later moved to Tulsa, where she lived for a short time until moving to Eufaula in the later part of the 90's.

She was employed with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections in McAlester as a corrections officer.

Her hobbies were attending her sons sports activities with her mother, Madeline, crocheting, and watching her boys grow.

She is proceeded in death by her father Mitchell.

Charlotte is survived by her mother Madeline Amos of Eufaula; two sons Cameron and Christian Amos both of the home; aunts Ruth and James Hedding of Tulsa; Kissie and George Mouse of Yukon, Ellen Jones of Blanchard, Armetta and Joe Looney of Davis Arnetta Amos of Oklahoma City, and Alice Porter of Shawnee; uncles Morris Amos of Oklahoma City, Thomas Fixico of Shawnee, Charles Hennehaw of Seminole; one great aunt Amelia Deer of Seminole, and several cousins and other relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Hitchitee Cemetery, near Little Oklahoma.

MELISSA LONG DEERE

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Melissa Long Deere, were held November 3, at the Salt Creek Methodist Church with Paul Fixico, Reverend Joe Lowe, Jr., and Reverend Gene Harjo officiating.

Melissa was born on October 27, 1911 in Yeager, to Noah Long and Jenna Harjo Long.

She was raised in Yeager and attended school at Sacred Heart and Bacone.

She was a lifetime member of Salt Creek United Methodist Church and at the time of her illness, Melissa was the Mother of the Church.

Her hobbies were sewing, quilting, cooking, gardening, and caring for others.

Melissa was preceded in death by her husband, Eli Deer; one son, Kenneth Deer; two brothers, David Lond, Sr. and Newman Long, Her Grandmother, Lindy; her parents; foster brother, Alfred Harjo; and foster sister, Nancy Harjo.

Survivors are her three grandchildren, Lyle Deere and Lisa Deere, both of Muskogee and Johnna Gouge of Coweta; six great grandchildren, Tenetke Deer, Melinda Gouge, Kosa Deere, Maria Todd, Paskova Deere, and Sukey Deere; nephews, David Long Jr., Noah Long; nieces, Barbara "Baby Sister Long and Liz Reeder; and a host of other relatives and friends.



DEER

Pallbearers are Robert McGeeley, Chris Aultman, Louis McGeeley, Tenetke Deer, Kosa Deere, and Paskova Deere.

Honorary pallbearers include the Salt Creek Women.

Interment was at the Harjo Family Cemetery.

ELSIE FAULKNER

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral services for Elsie Mae Faulkner were held October 31, at the Ministry of Life Church in Wewoka with Reverend Frank Moppin and Reverend Edward Bear officiating.

Elsie was born in Sasakwa on May 23, 1923 to Chiley and Eliza McGirt.

She was a full blood Indian of the Muscogee Creek/Seminole tribes and belongs to the Alligator clan and Little River Tulsa tribal town.

She was a member of Spring Baptist Church in Sasakwa and later attended Ministry of Life in Wewoka.

Elsie married James Faulkner on February 14 in Holdenville. She enjoyed spending time with family and friends, and preparing meals making sure that everyone was well fed.

Preceding her in death was: her parents; children: Raymond McGirt, Linda McGirt, Samuel Powell, and Larry Faulkner; Granddaughter Teresa Powell, Great Grandson Joey Madden; sisters Ella Coon, Tochee Harjo, and Emma Franks.

Survivors include: her husband James Faulkner of the home; Ten Children: Terry Faulkner, Gary Faulkner, and Ricky Faulkner all of the home, Fred and Mary Ann Billy, Lucille Farber, and Janie and Wayne Harjo all of Holdenville, Danny and Susie Lee Faulkner, Teresa and David Conley all of Wewoka, Jimmy McGirt, Tony and Ramona Faulkner of Tulsa; Brothers: Walter McGirt of Okemah, William McGirt of Oklahoma City, and Jimmy McGirt of Wewoka; Forty-two grandchildren, sixty-one great grandchildren, and seven great-great grandchildren; also numerous nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Pallbearers included grandsons: Jamie Powell, Randall Billy, Steven McGirt, Kevin Farber, Eric Harjo, Justin Faulkner, Nicholas Faulkner, and Gerran Scott;

Honorary Pallbearers included: Wayne Harjo, David Conley, Charlie Franks, Jimmy Lee Harjo, Joe Coon, Roland McGirt, Pete Harjo, and Jerry "Cheddy" Brown.

Interment was at the Holdenville Cemetery.

MARY HILL

VERNON — Funeral services for Mary Hill were held September 16, at the Billy Hill residence in Dustin with Reverends Richmond Carr and Nathaniel Harjo officiating.

Mary was born July 8, 1924 in McIntosh County to Harry and Melinda (Haynes) Proctor.

She was raised in Hanna and later, married Jack Isaac Hill.

Preceding her in death was: her husband Jack Isaac Hill and son Benjamin Hill.

Survivors include her children: Roman Hill of Seminole, Jacob Hill of Henryetta, Josie Hill of Henryetta, Billy Hill of Dustin and Lilly Yargee of Eufaula; Step children Chapman Hill, Eunice Hill, Dave Hill, Amy Hill, and Maxine Hill; also 18 grandchildren and 37 great grandchildren.

Pallbearers included: Robert Solomon, J D Harley, Adam Pigeon, Jacky Yargee, Snow Harley, Steve Yargee, Billy Ray Harley, and Sam Osbourne.

Interment was at the Jackson cemetery in Vernon.

STEVEN JAY HORSE

BRISTOW — Funeral Services were held for Steven Jay Horse on October 11, at the Hill Family Residence.

Steven was born on November 23, 1985 to Dewey Horse, Sr. and Jeanette (Hill) Horse in Okemah.

He resided in the Bristow/ Gypsy area most of his life and graduated from Depew High School in 2004.

He enjoyed playing the guitar, spending time with his daughter, visiting with his Grandmother as well as time with his brothers and cousins.

He was a member of the Okfuskee tribal grounds and belonged to the Echawsa (Beaver) Clan.

Steven attended the New Covenant Church of Stroud. He was employed by McGuire Brothers Construction Company.

He enjoyed playing the guitar, spending time with his daughter, visiting with his Grandmother as well as time with his brothers and cousins.

Survivors include: his parents, Dewey Horse, Sr. of Tulsa, and Jeanette Horse of Bristow; one daughter, Alexandria Mason Horse of Bristow; five brothers, Bruce McPerryman of Bristow, Dewey Horse, Jr. of Okmulgee, Orlee Horse of Bristow, Albert Horse of Oklahoma City, Frankie Rodriguez of Texas; two sisters, Georgia Horse of Tulsa, and Jamie Osburn of Bristow; Grandmother, JoAnn Powell and Step Grandfather, Arthur Powell both of Bristow; six uncles, Sammy Hill and wife, Gina, of Henryetta, Solomon hill and wife, Sharon, of Bristow, David Hill and wife, Monica, of Depew, Johnny Hicks of Okemah, and Terry Hicks also of Okemah, and Richard Horse of Cushing, Wilson Hicks, Banson Hicks, and Hanson Hicks all of Okemah; four aunts, Janet Hill, Helen Phil-



Horse

lips, Debra Star, Mary Walters, and Louise Burgess of Welty; four nephews and three nieces and a host of other relatives and friends.

Interment was at the Hill Family Cemetery.

LARRY LONG

MUSKOGEE — Funeral services for Larry Long were held October 9, at the Bradley Belltower Chapel.

Long was born on October 14, 1947, he moved to Muskogee in October 2003.

He was the oldest of six siblings.

After graduating from Preston High School, he attended and graduated from Bacone College.

His career included working in the Human Services field in various areas such as New York City, San Diego, and Oklahoma City.

Larry was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents Thomas Long, Jr. and Martha Berry hill Long of Holdenville; his maternal grandparents, Miller Tarpalechee and Nancy Lowe Tarpalechee of Morris; and one niece, Georgina Kay Long, Okmulgee.

He is survived by his parents Reverend Dr. Harry Lee Long and Mulsey Tarpalechee Long of Muskogee; two sisters, Beverly "Sister" Long and Starr Long both of Muskogee; Three brothers, Stephen "Wotko" Long of Holdenville, Taylor "Bug" Long of Casa Grande, AZ, and Gary Long of San Carlos, AZ; nine nieces and nephews; 10 great-nieces and nephews; his extended family including a host of family and friends.

GRACIELLA MATHEWS-TIGER

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Graciella (Gracie) Mao-Lani Mathews-Tiger, was held October 27 at the Arbeka Indian Baptist Church in Bryant with Reverends Marvin Lowe, Christopher Harjo, Johnny Leybas and Matt Tiger officiating.

Gracie was born February 7, 2002 to Darryl and Camela Tiger at the Okmulgee Memorial Hospital.

She attended Wilson Creek Nation Head Start. She enjoyed playing with her brothers and classmates, Thursday night Chinese and movie night with her mother and brothers, eating popcorn and watching movies.

She is preceded in death by: her maternal great grandparents Bennie and Lillian Leybas and paternal grandmother Amelia Brown.

Survivors include: her mother, Camela Tiger of the home, father, Specialist Darryl Tiger of the home; two brothers: Dominic Nikolas Tiger, and Jason Nathaniel Tiger, both of the home; maternal grandmother, Bertha Brown of Okmulgee; maternal aunt Cecelia (Sissy) Leybas of Okmulgee; paternal aunt, Tracy Brown of Bixby; uncles: Jesse Brown of Arkansas and Robert Brown of Tulsa.

Casketbearers will be Tecumseh Sanders, Nick Sanders, Wyatt Wixson, and Matt Sutton.

Honorary Casketbearers will be Bryan Sanders, and Virgil Sanders.

Interment was at the Arbeka Cemetery.



MATHEWS-TIGER

KATIE PROCTOR

WETUMKA — Funeral services for Katie Proctor were held October 21, at the Grave Baptist Church with Elder Richard Gambler and Reverend Richmond Carr Officiating.

Katie was born February 22, 1942 to Martin and Lilian Gambler in Hannah.

She attended school in the Hanna Area as a child and later met and married Woody Proctor.

Preceding her in death was her husband Woody Proctor.

Survivors include her son Darrell Proctor of Oklahoma City; brothers Wallace and Richard Gambler; a sister Juanita Mckinney.

TONY ROBERTS

WELEETKA — Funeral services for Tony Roberts were held October 20, at the Alabama Baptist Church.

Tony was born August 6, 1961, in Tahlequah, to Hulley "Limbo" Manley and Frances Birdcreek.

Tony was a lifelong resident of the Okemah area, and worked as a general labor.

Preceding him in death were: his parents; Benjamin Robin Lewis Roberts, and Shirley Ann Yargee.

Survivors include his sons: Darrel Roberts, Raffell Roberts, and Daniel Roberts all of Quincy, Illinois; Three daughters: Amanda Kay Roberts of Ft. Payne, Alabama, Karen Louise Roberts, and Larissa Markayla, both of Quincy, Illinois; Four brothers: Terry "Skipper" Roberts, Allen Roberts, both of Tulsa, Mandrel " Tuffy" Roberts of Okmulgee, and Randy Roberts of Cromwell; a sister Ida Louise Roberts of Tulsa; four grand daughters and one grandson.

GRATITUDE

On behalf of Mattie Jean Thomas, the family would like to thank all those who made monetary contributions, food donations, prayers and support to the family in their time of need and mourning. Thanks to the Muscogee Nation Tribal Police for providing the escort service from Okmulgee to Weogufkee Indian Baptist Church in Hannah.

Also a special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Billy Hill and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Solomon for being with the family during Mattie's hospital stay and during the funeral.

Mattie Thomas family

On behalf of Larry Long, the family would like to gives thanks to all who came to support and comfort the family during the loss of their oldest sibling. A special thanks goes out to Reverend Dion Francis and Reverend Billie Nowabbi, both close friends of Larry. Also a thank you to all that donated food, flowers, prayers, and the cards of condolences.

Larry Long family

On behalf of Dave "Sonny" Hill, the family would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to all who offered their kind and thoughtful support in the family's time of sorrow. It was deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged. Also a special thanks to MCN Hospital Staff, Social Services, MCN Honor Guard and Okmulgee DHS. Mvto

Dave Long family

Schumacher Funeral Home
Ron Schumacher is Announcing
Two new additions to our staff with over
80 years of combined experience to better serve you
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The Hot Corner

by Jason Salsman

Forgive me, if my excitement for the month of November is a little muted. Don't get me wrong I'm looking forward to Turkey Day, the high school football playoffs and the beginning of basketball season but yours truly just had an October to remember.

For me and the rest of Cardinal Nation it was Red October! The St. Louis Cardinals, winning only 83 games during the regular season and counted out by every sportswriter in the country (save one) shocked the world and delivered the 10th World Series championship to the city of St. Louis. What was even more impressive about this accomplishment by the boys wearing the birds on the bat, was the fact that the entire sports world was rooting against them. The national media pouted and cried because it was a small market team in the World Series. More emphasis was put on the poor TV ratings than the baseball that was being played on the field, which because of the Detroit Tigers fielding issues, might have been a good thing. Look, it doesn't matter how many games you win during the regular season or how bad you limped in to the playoffs. If you win your division after a grueling 162 game season and then go through two teams that had the best record in their league for a majority of the season, then you have earned your championship. Baseball is a beautiful game, you never know what is going to happen. That's why they turn the lights on and settle it on the field. Because honestly, if games and championships were decided in the papers, The Cardinals would have been done in five games. Ironically, that's how many it took them to close the deal. Baseball, beautiful baseball!

One of the reasons I love the previous story so much is that sports is the perfect stage for second chances. About a month or two ago, I had written an article in 4 Love of the Game magazine on Creek athlete Vfastv Locust of Vian and how impressed I was with his talents and the young man himself. I had talked with Locust just before the season started, and all was right with the world. But then things changed. At Vian's preseason scrimmages, Locust was nowhere to be found. The story later broke that he had been indefinitely suspended for a violation of team rules. Rumors swirled and circulated for weeks about what had happened to the record breaking tailback. What did he do? What was the violation? The answers to those questions aren't entitled to the people asking them.

Most of the sports writers covering high school football inquiring on the story just wanted a sound bite or a juicy lead. Not this one. I got to know the kid, I traveled with him to Denver, CO over the summer for a basketball tournament, got to talk to him, earned his trust. There are a few questions that I can answer. Did he make a mistake? Yes. Does it make him a bad seed? Absolutely not. It makes him a 17 year old kid. Let's not sit around and start thinking about some of the choices and decisions we made at 17, I promise it would not be pleasant for any of us. What matters most is the responsibility we take for those actions. Vfastv Locust has learned about responsibility. Going from state record holder, to inactive for 7 weeks of your senior season in the spotlight can teach you things. That kind of disappointment can be devastating to a young man, but Locust was not about to let one mistake turn into two. In his first game back, he led the Wolverines in rushing with 95 yards on only 8 carries and scored a touchdown. In his second game back, he scored from 31 yards out. That's not good news for the rest of 2A. This kid knows how to find the end zone and he and his team know how to win. But don't mistake his motives. He's not running to prove a point. He did that just by stepping on the field again.

National Council passes legislation to honor Allie Reynolds

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — Few Native American athletes have left as big a legacy in this lifetime as Allie Reynolds. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation is making sure that the legacy of one of it's favorite sons is not forgotten.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council, during last months regular session, unanimously voted to pass legislation appropriating funds for two bronze busts to be made in honor of the late New York Yankee pitcher. One of the busts will be displayed at the Red Earth Museum and the other will be in Okmulgee at the Creek Capitol Complex.

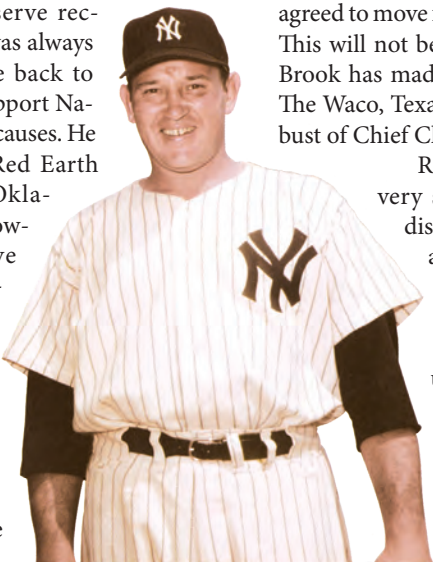
Speaker George Tiger, who sponsored the bill, talked about Reynolds and the importance of honoring him in such a way. "Allie Reynolds was such a special person," said Tiger. "What I always admired was that even though he became a famous ballplayer on a famous team, he never forgot who he was or where he came from and he used his resources to advance Creek people."

After a stellar college career at what is now Oklahoma State University, Reynolds was drafted by the Cleveland Indians organization. He never met

much success in Cleveland so he was traded to the New York Yankees. With New York, Reynolds became one of the most successful and versatile pitchers in the history of the franchise. Whether it was starting the game or coming out of the bullpen in relief duty, Reynolds got it done at a high level. His plaque now sits among greats such as Babe Ruth and Mickey Mantle in Yankee Stadium's historic Monument Park.

Although he reached the highest level in the game of baseball, Reynolds did many things outside the game that deserve recognition. He was always willing to give back to charity and support Native American causes. He founded the Red Earth Festival, an Oklahoma City showcase of Native American artistry that just celebrated its 20th year.

In addition, Reynolds also worked on behalf of the



Creek Nation to advance his own tribe. He served on the Creek Nation Gaming Operations Authority Board. "Because of his efforts and those of his peers at that time, Indian gaming is what it is today," said Tiger.

The idea for the busts was hatched by the people at Red Earth, Inc. who wanted to commemorate one of their founders. They contacted Muskogee Creek sculptor Dan Brook, who will craft the busts, who in turn contacted Principal Chief A.D. Ellis with the idea. Chief Ellis and Speaker Tiger met and agreed to move forward with the project. This will not be the first sculpture that Brook has made for the Creek Nation. The Waco, Texas sculptor also crafted a bust of Chief Claude Cox.

Reynolds' likeness will very soon be on permanent display at the Creek capitol and at the Red Earth Museum, which is open weekly from 9 a.m.- 5 p.m. and on weekends until 6 p.m. Hopefully it will not be long before it is in another place. In Cooperstown, NY at the Baseball Hall of Fame.

4 Love of the Game magazine now available

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — For a couple months now, folks have waited with great anticipation for the all new 4 Love of the Game Native American Athlete Magazine. The wait is over, and the magazines are in.

With any new project, the initial issue is one that takes some getting used to and fine tuning. So while wanting to get out the first issue as soon as possible the editors and staff wanted to make sure they invested the time necessary to make it as good a publication as it can be.

The inaugural issue is packed with sports information, tributes to past heroes and the up and coming stars of tomorrow. Some of the highlighted stories from the first issue are Creek athlete and state touchdown record-holder Vfastv Locust, basketball sensation Angel Goodrich, a tribute to Allie Reynolds, a chat with former OU men's basketball coach Kelvin Sampson and much, much more.

Copies of the magazine can be picked up at various locations but most issues can be picked up through the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Communications department by contacting Lucas Taylor at (918) 732-7634 or by logging on the internet and visiting www.4loveofthegame.net.

Breaking Up is Hard to Do

Creek citizen Kelly Quilman could not give up her love of basketball, so she is turning it into a career

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

MUSKOGEE — For most young adults, graduating with a degree from a prestigious college is the ultimate fulfillment. All Kelly Quilman felt was a void in her life, something was missing.

That is not the case these days as she finds herself roaming the sidelines as assistant coach of the women's basketball program at Bacone College. She has always loved the game, and she certainly knew what she was doing on the basketball court.

Quilman has played basketball over half of her life, starting in the fourth grade. She developed her skills and went on to have a stellar high school career at Tulsa Union for head coach Jim Stacy. Stacy's example helped Kelly find what she was looking for. "He was such a great man and a great coach at the same time," she said. After her playing career came to a close at Union, another door opened up. She was awarded a full scholarship to play basketball at Bacone



coach. "I had totally prepared myself to let go of the game once I had finished playing."

During her four years of school, she had worked hard not just on the court but in the classroom as well. The hard work paid off as she was awarded a bachelor's degree in criminal justice last spring. But over the summer, while searching for a job relevant to her field, she felt that something was missing from her life. Something missing that had been there since the fourth grade, that had taught her so many things about life and provided for her education.

She was missing the game of basketball, and she knew that she would not be right without it.

"I said to myself, what are you doing?" she recalled. "Why are you running away from the game? You can prepare yourself all you want, but I had been around it and loved it all my life. I just missed it too much."

for the job, was hired in September and now sits beside her former coach as the assistant coach of the Lady Warriors. "It's so weird because just last year, I was being taught the same things that I'm trying to teach these girls," said Quilman.

One of the best things about basketball, according to Quilman, is how many roles there are working together for a common goal. There is also the recognition of those roles being very different, and now she is seeing things from a whole other side.

"People would not believe how big of a difference it is," she said while explaining the transition of going from a player to a coach. "I was just playing last year, so there are times when I wish I was back out there. I go through a lot of emotions." But for her the most important emotion, happiness, is the one she feels most often. So will Quilman look to make coaching a fixture in her long-term plans for the future? Maybe. "I don't really know," she answered. "I just got started so there is a lot of coaching experience that I still have to pick up." She is picking it up on the job, juggling her responsibilities of being the assistant

coach of the varsity team with being the head coach of the junior varsity squad. She also is interested in furthering her education, possibly pursuing a master's degree in counseling or education. And she doesn't rule out coaching at the high school level.

Whatever it is, I would not bet against Quilman. She has already showed that she is willing to take a unique path to get what she wants out of life. Her example is admirable and one that should be duplicated. Maybe a higher paying job or more prestigious job title is what most people strive for, but it is unfortunate when they have to compromise their own happiness to do so. "I just look at it as what is important to each individual," she said. "Do you want to get up every day and go to a job that you hate, or would you rather do something that you love?"

Quilman has already answered that question for herself. Guess what, she is not that remorseful for the decision she made. Wondering what the most important thing to her is about the new job? "This is what I want to be doing," she said. "I'm having a great time."

National Council continues to support Native American youth

OKMULGEE — At a recent National Council Business and Governmental meeting, members of the committee unanimously voted to pass proposed legislation for 4 Love of the Game. The legislation will be placed on the agenda for November's regular session for action by the full Council.

The National Council has been the sole supporter of 4 Love of the Game for the past two years. "The National Council has been a vital component of the success of our organization," said Victor Bear, board member. "For the past few weeks it looked like the National Council would not be able to help us. But when it came down to it, they had the same interest at heart as we do, our Native American youth."

The assistance could not have come at a better time. The Fourth Annual Warrior's Showcase Shootout is scheduled for Thanksgiving weekend, Nov. 24 - 25 in Henryetta.

Last year's tournament featured 50 teams comprised of young, talented, Native American boys and girls basketball All-Stars from ages five to 13 years old throughout Oklahoma. Teams came from places throughout Oklahoma, such as Bethel, Dewar, Dustin, Henryetta, Konowa, Morris, Okemah, Okmulgee,

Sallisaw, Shawnee, Stillwater, Tahlequah, and Wetumka participated in last year's tournament.

"We were able to able raise \$350 in toys and Wal-Mart gift cards for the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Angel Tree Project last year," said Bear. "Our goal this year is to raise close to \$1,000."

Age divisions and entry are as follows: 5-6 years old (co-ed), \$50; 7-8 years old (boys & girls), \$60; 9-10 years old (boys & girls), \$70; 11-12 years old (boys & girls), and 13-14 years old (boys & girls), \$90. Also, each team is asked to bring a \$10 Wal-Mart gift card for the 4 Love of the Game Angel Tree Project. Deadline for entries is Nov. 14.

The National Council support has also allowed 4 Love of the Game to generate over \$150,000 in scholarships the last two years. "You have no earthly idea of what this means for us as a family," said Marilyn Lovins, the mother of Caylen Ahtone, one of last year's scholarship recipients. "I have always stressed education, community, family and God to my children. You and your organization have answered my silent prayers. This is a much needed service in Indian Country for Indian kids"

For more information, visit www.4loveofthegame.org.

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Which sport is currently the most unpredictable?



Well, absolutely college basketball has divided itself from the pack as being truly the most unpredictable sports format. But college football deserves special attention in this discussion. Teams such as Louisville, West Virginia and others have begun to climb in the polls. Maybe because of the recent BCS reconstruction and updated power ranking teams are more

on the national radar now, whereas that was not always the case four or five years ago. So, I believe college football has in that way become the most unpredictable sport. Just look at who the top ten teams were in August and how much that has changed. The unique parody that exists in college football alone, is enough to label it the most unpredictable sport.



I think when you look at all sports and take into account all levels of competition, then college basketball would have to be the most unpredictable. When you think about it, a lot of sports could be considered in this category. Baseball is a close second in this case, but even though they might not win a title, the Yankees, Cardinals and Red Sox are going to be right there every

year. With college basketball, the odds of predicting the correct Final Four are about as good as sitting on a winning lottery ticket. I mean, who knew George Mason would make a run last year at the national championship by making it through the tournament and onto the Final Four. Nothing says unpredictable more than that!



Featured artist:
Arigon Starr

American Indian
Night at the Tulsa
66ers



13th Native American Film + Video Festival about to begin

by Elizabeth Weatherford, Founding Director, Native American Film + Video Festival

NEW YORK — Organized by the Film and Video Center of the National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI), the Native American Film + Video Festival celebrates the creative energy of Native American directors, producers, writers, actors, musicians, cultural activists, and all the others who support their endeavors. This year the Film and Video Center (FVC) is also observing its 25th anniversary.

The 2006 festival opens on Thursday, November 30, at the National Museum of the American Indian's George Gustav Heye Center in New York with The Journals of Knud Rasmussen, the new feature film directed by Zacharias Kunuk and Norman Cohn (the team that brought us Atanarjuat/The Fast Runner). The festival continues through Sunday, December 3, with more than 125 premieres, award-winning shorts, features and documentaries from Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Guatemala, Ecuador, Mexico, Peru, and the United States. All screenings are free. The screening schedule and film synopses will be available on this site soon. For directions, enter here.

The 2006 festival received more than 550 entries from which the Festival's hard working selection team has chosen this year's program. We are especially excited to be presenting numerous outstanding works by a new generation of emerging filmmakers who are introducing new perspectives on what it means to be indigenous in

the 21st century. Their work includes narratives, animations, and documentaries on issues of personal identity, struggle for Native lands, community strengths, and the impact of multi-nationalism. Border and cross-cultural realities infuse many of the pieces.

Each of the filmmakers represented here has used film as a tool for discovery, and the festival is an exciting way to come together to share in that. From the works of directors who have screened and won awards at major festivals ranging from Sundance to Cannes, to productions by the "New Generations" teens and young, emerging filmmakers with professional training in film schools and workshops, the program is rich with their experiences.

Among other works being featured is Venciendo el Miedo/Conquering Fear, a drama from Bolivia by Maria Morales (Amyara), produced in conjunction with the Bolivian national indigenous media organization CEFREC-CAIB. It tells the story of the powerful path that a woman follows after her family leaves the highlands to seek a better life elsewhere. From Brazil, My

First Contact by filmmakers Mari Correa and Kumaré Txição (Ikpeng) focuses on community memory and indigenous history, as the Ikpeng people recount their first contacts with 'white men' in

encounter with an elder (N.Y. premiere); Conversion, Nanobah Becker's (Navajo) drama exploring the impact of Christian missionaries on the Navajo Reservation; and Gesture Down (I Don't Sing), by Cedar Sherbert (Kumeyaay), in which a Kumeyaay man crosses more than a physical border when he goes from California to Mexico to visit family.

The Film and Video Center's 25th anniversary is a good time to reflect on how much has happened in our dynamic field. We're engaged

daily screenings at NMAI in New York and Washington, DC; a monthly "At the Movies" film series; special showcases at the museum and in Santa Fe, and elsewhere; and national and international touring festivals. FVC provides extensive information services on Native film, video and radio through its bilingual "Native Networks/Redes Indigenas Website" (which received more than 1.5 million hits in the past eleven months). And this year we celebrate not only an anniversary, but the FVC's future expansion; the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation has recently awarded a sizable grant to the museum to improve FVC's facilities in New York.

And now the 2006 Festival! The selectors and staff of the 2006 Native American Film + Video Festival look forward to your presence and will welcome your comments and responses to all the wonderful work we are about to screen.

All festival programs are free. For daytime programs at NMAI and the evening program at the Donnell Media Center, seating on a first come, first served basis. Reservations are recommended for evening programs at NMAI. No more than four tickets can be reserved by any one person. Pickup reserved tickets at the Will Call Desk starting 40 min. before showtime. Tickets not picked up 15 minutes before showtime are released to the wait list. NMAI charter members are given priority for reservations until Nov. 17. To reserve, call (212) 514-3737 or reserve on-line at www.nativenetworks.si.edu/reservest.

Red Fork Native American Film Festival

November 15-19, 2006

Stephen J. Jatrass Student Union
Tulsa Community College - West Campus
7505 West 41st Street

Free Admission!



Winter Chill

Wednesday, November 15

7:00 PM *Grace*; Director: Darwyn Roanhorse (11 min.)
7:15 PM *Mohawk Girls*; Director: Tracey Deer (64 min.)
8:30 PM *The Winter Chill*; Director: Paul M. Rickard (25 min.)



Grace

Thursday, November 16, 2006

7:00 PM *Cowboys and Indians*; Director: Patrick Mehauffy (13 min.)
7:15 PM *The Dare*; Director: Mark Williams (19 min.)

Meet Director Mark Williams

7:15 PM *The Brave*; Director: Johnny Depp; starring Depp, Marlon Brando (83 min.)



Friday, November 17, 2006

3:30 PM *A Native American Cultural Experience for Educators, Students, Parents, and Children: Teaching and Learning Respect—Powwow Exhibition: Nohbahdee / Storytelling: Choogie Kingfisher*

5:00 PM *A Native American Cultural Experience for Educators, Students, Parents, and Children: Teaching and Learning Respect—Educational Workshop*

6:00 PM *Indian Taco Concession Available*

7:00 PM *My Favorite Runner*; Director: Thomas M. Yeahpau (15 min.)
7:15 PM *One Dead Indian*; Director: Tim Southam (90 min.)
9:00 PM *My Favorite Runner*; Director: Thomas M. Yeahpau (15 min.)
9:15 PM *One Dead Indian*; Director: Tim Southam (90 min.)



Johnny Tootall

Sunday, November 19, 2006

2:00 PM *When I Hear Thunder*; Director: Dirk Olson (90 min.)
3:45 PM *Encore! Festival Audience Popular Choice*

Cast Your Vote!

Music Videos to be shown during festival include:
Meegweetch; Director: Bruce MacDonald (3:51 min)
Sunny Days; Director: Winfield Ezell (4 min.)

Native Voices at the Autry

by Autry National Center

LOS ANGELES — Native Voices at the Autry is devoted to developing and producing new works for the stage by Native American playwrights. Since 1999, Native Voices at the Autry has produced Urban Tattoo, Jump Kiss, The Buz/Gem Blues, Please Do Not Touch the Indians, Kino & Teresa, Stone Heart, and The Red Road. The Red Road was wrote by this month's MNN's featured Creek artist Arigon Starr.

In addition, Native Voices at the Autry has held 49 workshops and presented 40 staged readings of new plays by Native American playwrights featuring Native American actors. Through its Young Native Voices: Theater Education Project has provided workshops and residencies resulting in 44 staged readings of 10-minute plays by student writers and a full production of three traditional Kumeyaay stories featuring 37 students from the Sycuan Learning Center.

Native Voices at the Autry was established in 1999 to provide a support and collaborative setting for Native American playwrights and actors from all over the U.S. and Canada to both develop their work and see it fully realized.

The Autry National Center in Los Angeles, California is home to Native Voices and every year hosts the many playwrights who come to develop their work for the stage.

Staged readings are free. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling (323) 667-2000, ext. 354.

For more information about Native Voices at the Autry visit their website at <http://autrynationalcenter.org/nativevoices.php>.

Super Indian hits the airwaves in November

by Wacky Productions Unlimited

WEST PLAINS, MO — Celebrate Native American Heritage Month With A Three Course Feast For The Ear. The Native Radio Theater (NRT) Project presents three original radio plays, produced at a National Audio Theatre Festival workshop

in West Plains, MO in June, 2006. Melba's Medicine, written by Rose-Yvonne Colletta (Lipan-Mescalero Apache) features a Native Grandmother who hosts her own radio talk show and gives out sage advice. Super Indian by Arigon Starr (Kickapoo/Creek) is about an Indian with super powers and his side kicks General Bear and Dogi. The Best Place to Grow Pumpkins by Rhiana Yazzie (Navajo) tells the story of a young girl who helps her grandfather fight his diabetes through a magical pumpkin patch. Funded by the Ford Foundation, NRT is a project of Native American Public Telecommunications and Native Voices at the Autry.

The hour-long special will be broadcast over Native Voice One (NV1) eight times during November. The Native American Radio Service distributes through the Public Radio Satellite System to Native American radio stations around the country. Listeners all over the world can hear it on the web at www.airos.org or www.nativeradio.org

Broadcast times are as follows: Thursday, November 16 at 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 6 p.m. E.T.; Saturday, November 18 at 1 p.m. E.T.; Sunday, November 19 at 1 p.m. E.T.; twice on Thanksgiving Day, November 23 at 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 6 p.m. E.T.; Saturday, November 25 at 1 p.m.; and Sunday, November 26 at 1 p.m.



Featured Artist

Arigon Starr: Oklahoma's own makes it in first round for the Grammy Awards

by Nativetimes.com and written by Liz Gray.

Oklahoma has been responsible for producing many talented musicians over the years. We are known for our country and western talent, as well as, numerous musicians in various fields of blues, classical and rock-n-roll.

But try to fit Indian Country's Arigon Starr in a category and you may have a bit of a problem. She's known as a performing actress, folk artist, female country vocalist and playwright.

Out of the shoot with her first play, "The Red Road", Arigon struck a chord of interest with critics nation wide. The play garnered rave reviews from the Los Angeles Times and Daily Variety and most recently was placed in the first rounds for the Grammy Awards given by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences. It was called the "Best Musical Show Album" which is in the same category as Harry Con-

nick Junior with the Pajama Game and the Color Purple. "It just blew me away to be in that category," Starr told The Native Times. "That made me really proud. Even though it was a record it was a sound track for the show."

The Red Road, is a wild, wacky comedy with music which dissects Native American activism, racial stereotyping, and small-town politics. Native Voices at the Autry world-premiered the play at the Autry National Center on March 30, 2006.

Performed in it's original format, Arigon accompanies herself on acoustic guitar throughout an 18 character-driven tune fest.

The Los Angeles Times review described the play as such, "Throughout, Starr plays a mean guitar, with showstopping hot licks that match her rafter-raising vocal stylings. She varies her satiric and soulful country songs according to character, from Patty's twangy

country ballads and Danny's howling "Indian Eyes" to Emmitt's loving and loud rendition of the café's down-home menu."

Her family was very excited when they heard the news Saturday about her possible Grammy nomination. They know it can give Arigon exposure which will lead her into other opportunities. Starr has visions of moving her play to HBO. "I'm always dreaming," said Starr. "I'm always thinking about the next thing."

Native Voices at the Autry has commissioned Arigon Starr to create a 10-part radio comedy series called Super Indian which chronicles the adventures of Hubert Logan, a reservation Indian boy with uncanny powers. Starr jokingly stated that the hero, which she called the 'Commod Bod' got his super powers from a dose of tainted cheese. The series is being produced for the 2006 Native Voices at the Autry Festival of New Plays in November, in conjunction with the Native Radio Theater Project and



Starr

the National Audio Theater.

Starr was asked how she comes up with her comic material for her work. "From everybody that I talk to," said Starr. "I get it from my family. People on the road. All the material just comes from life. A lot of just talking to other Indians. I'll ask them, 'What's on your mind? What's going on in your community?'"

Underneath the humor one can sense a serious side to Arigon's personality. That side that we all have and respectfully ignore when talking to another native person. A 'knowing' that it sometimes hurts to be Indian. A quiet understanding that the person you are talking to has the scars of the past and pains of the present that come with being Indian. But Arigon craftfully turns pain in to opportunity for change. Creating an example to follow of moving on thru to humor. "It starts with laughing at hard times... that survival humor," said Starr.

While traveling across the country, Starr sees a lot of the same type of "survival humor" no matter where she goes. Probably because behind it is the same type of problems and pain. She's telling the story of native people everywhere.

Their ups and downs and their innate ability to laugh at familiar problems Native people face on a daily basis.

"It gets so bad I say, well I gotta see the humor in this. We can't lay down and die! Our parents didn't, nor did our grandparents," said Starr. "That is the one thing that is the thread of all the different things that I do."

Some may criticize Arigon and say she isn't telling the real story - the dark, serious side to racism or poverty. But Arigon goes one respectful step further and creates an escape route for those that may not have a way out or a sense of relief. That's what Indian people call 'good medicine'. And for that, we knod our heads and said, "Aho, Arigon. Aho."

Starr will be performing at the Native Fall Music Festival at the Creek Nation Casino located at 81st & Riverside Drive in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Saturday, November 18th. For more information call 918-299-8518.

Find out more about Arigon Starr by going to her website: www.arigonstarr.com

Tradition, Arts & Crafts revived

by Native Peoples Magazine:

For many Native artisans, it was the memory of a grandmother's deftly moving fingers, or a grandfather's quiet words, that stirred up a powerful desire to learn and carry on an ancient skill

perhaps in danger of being lost to the modern world. In some cases, the effort of a single artist—who taught someone else, who then taught someone else—has revived and preserved important ancient Native crafts.

While objects such as Native pottery, painting, jewelry and textiles now enjoy widespread exposure in the world of fine art, many other traditional arts and crafts may be familiar only on a regional or tribal basis. Yet these, too, involve extraordinary skill. Created for daily or ceremonial use, or for fun, they represent essential elements of Native cultures and communities. With their beauty and ingenuity, they reveal the

living spirit of age-old ways of life. Here is a sampling of traditional crafts we hear less about.

The feather fan is an integral part of daily and ceremonial life for many Native peoples. It is used in dance, for

blessing, prayer, ceremony and for fanning. Patrick Scott (Diné) has been making feather fans since 1981, and has created fans for tribal people around North America and Mexico. His work is in collections as far away as Europe and in institutions such as the



Gilcrease Museum in Tulsa and the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. Yet many of his fans still go to Native people, who use them in traditional ways. For his part, the 39 year old artist often attends powwows and is an active member of the Native American Church.

Making a fan involves finding the

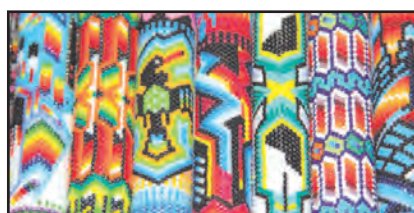
perfect combination of feathers, washing them with traditional herbs, then steaming and flattening them.

Feather fans and beaded handles by Patrick Scott (Diné). Photos by H.W. Brelsford.

Most of Scott's feathers come from moltings of live birds such as macaws, cockatoos, exotic turkeys and pheasants—feathers that are legal to buy and sell. If someone wants a fan containing eagle or other raptor feathers that cannot be sold, the client must provide the feathers. Paint is not used; the fans' carefully combined color choices come from beadwork, threadwork and featherwork using small dyed goose feathers, as well as the primary fan feathers.

Along with his brother, from whom he learned the craft, Scott developed the gourd stitch for beading, and uses high-quality, small beads. His one-of-a-kind designs often reflect the purchaser's life situation and planned use for the fan, he says.

For more information, e-mail Patrick at pscott3@frontiernet.net.



Five Civilized Tribes Museum presents award

by Bret Jones:

Bret Jones, a professor of Communication and Director of Theatre at East Central University in Ada, has won the 2006 Garrard Playwriting Award sponsored by the Five Civilized Tribes Museum for his play, War Paint. The ceremony took place October 15, at the Roxy in Muskogee. His duties as a Director of Theatre at East Central University include acting, directing, theatre history, play analysis, Native American Theatre, and script writing. Jones has been writing for a number of years,



Jones



The Onyx Sky Play

and has had work published and produced.

His work includes:

Novels: Stage Blood, currently being reviewed by Avalon Books; A Rope and a Prayer, currently being reviewed by Avalon Books; Windrows, Publish America, 2006; The Hamlet Ruse, Treble Heart Books, 2006; The Santa Claus Mysteries, Publish America, 2005.

Plays/Screenplays: The Field, to be produced at East Central University in 2006-07 theatre season; The Hero Zone, a screenplay produced by Jupiter Films, 2006; Too Many Tomorrows, a one-man show accepted for production by Theatre Studio, in New York City, 2002 (an Off-off Broadway theatre); The Onyx Sky, East Central University, 2004.

Theatre: The Thespian, a play produced by Ada Community Theatre, 2002; The Mouth of the Lion, a screenplay, that was shot by Phigment Philms in Ada, 2001.

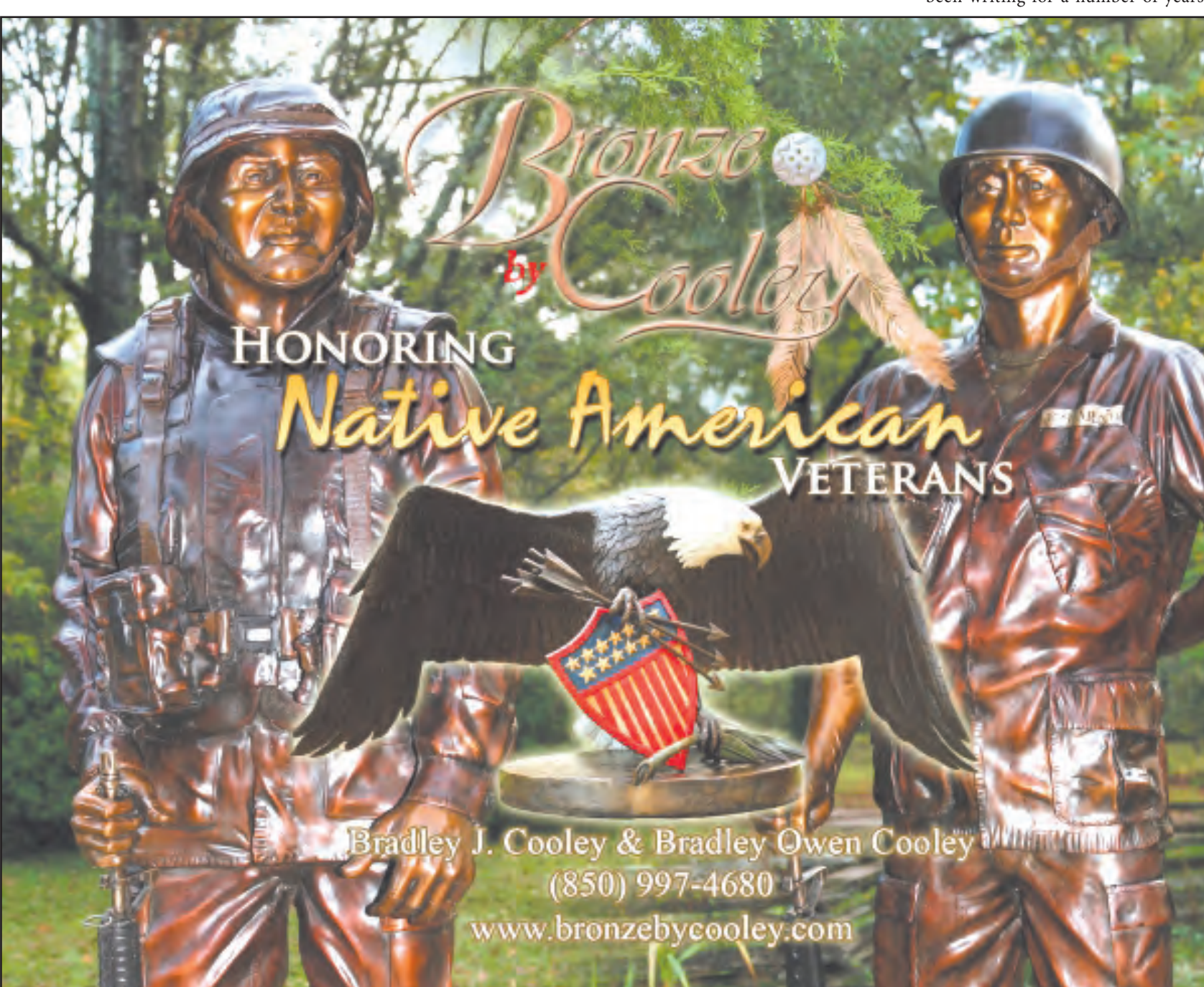
Radio: Writer and co-founder of The Ancient Radio Players (a radio performance troupe that produces original scripts for airing on area radio stations and live performances.

Poetry: From a Dark Corner of the Stage, a poetry chapbook published by The Plowman, 1995.

Articles: Jot'Em Down Stores Still Alive Today, The Jot 'Em Down Journal, 2006; Masculinity in Drama ECU Research Journal, 2004.

Jones has received numerous honors over the years. The awards and honors are as follows: the Garrard Play Prize for War Paint, 2006; The Friends of Old Time Radio script contest, second place, 2006; the Garrard Play Prize for Kindred, 2004; Fourth place with the film The Mouth of the Lion, OKFilm Festival, 2003; nominated for Teaching Excellence Award, 2002-2003; East Central University; Outstanding Young College Teacher, Oklahoma Speech Theatre Comm. Assoc., 2000; Who's Who Among American Teachers, 2000; nominated for Teaching Excellence Award, 1999-2000; East Central University; Playwriting and Dramaturgy Awards for The Isolation House, ACTF contest, 1999; Outstanding Young Man of America, 1996 and 1998; Ida Z. Kirk Acting Award, OU, 1993; and Alpha Psi Omega Outstanding Actor, 1988.

For more information on Bret Jones visit <http://bretjones1.tripod.com>.



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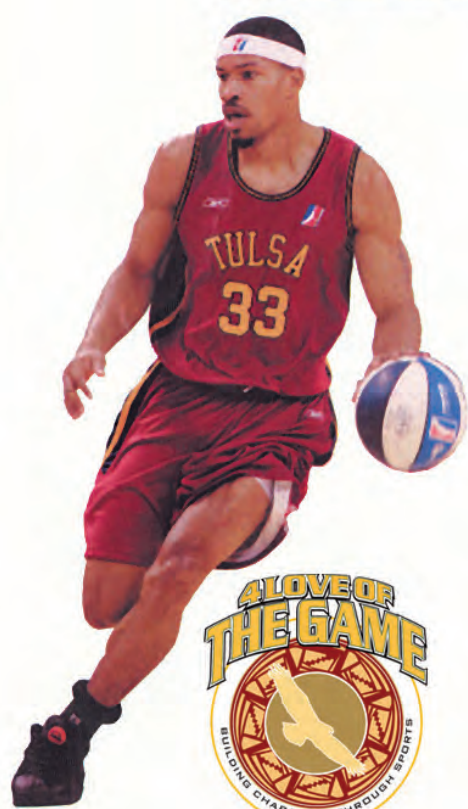


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December 2006

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SECTION B - FEATURES

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SECTION C - THE SCENE

Inside Section C of The Muscogee Nation News:
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NATIVE NEWS TODAY

Native News Today, hosted by Gerald Wofford and Jason Salsman, is currently being broadcast weekly on Saturday mornings beginning at 11 a.m. on Cox Cable Channel 3. Plans are in the works for Native News Today to be broadcast weekly in the Oklahoma City area on Cox Cable Channel 7. Depending on available funding, other major cities within the Creek Nation boundary area may begin broadcasting the show in the near future.

For more information, or to submit story ideas contact us at (918) 732-7720.

DECEMBER'S REMINDER

Muscogee (Creek) Nation offices will be closed on the following dates: Monday, December 25, 2006; Tuesday, December 26, 2006; Monday, January 1, 2007; and Tuesday, January 2, 2007.

CHR recognized for first response initiative

RESPONSE RECOGNIZED

Second Chief Alfred Berryhill, left, Principal Chief A.D. Ellis, right, present Trish Frye, CHR, with a recognition award for her outstanding ability and initiative as a first responder at the scene of an accident on Hwy 66 on Nov. 17, 2006.

photo by Starla Bush



by Carla Brown

MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — On Nov. 17, Principal Chief AD Ellis and Second Chief Alfred Berryhill recognized CHR Generalist, Trish Frye for her outstanding ability and initiative as a First Responder.

On Oct. 27, while transporting a client from Sapulpa to Bristow on Highway 66, Frye witnessed a multiple vehicle accident that included four children.

"I was transporting a citizen from Sapulpa back to Bristow when I came upon an accident," explained Frye. "A

car was upside down in a ditch between two trees. The only way the people could get out was through one window."

Frye immediately took charge of the situation. She asked if anyone had called for medical attention. Since no authorities were notified, she instructed a boy at the scene to go to the closest house and call for medical assistance.

"I asked if anyone had blankets or coats," said Frye. "I checked everyone out and kept them covered to prevent shock. The little boy, who was only in the second

grade, had a broke shoulder so I propped his arm. I stayed with them until the ambulance took them to the hospital. The father later thanked me."

Frye had attended the First Responder Training in February along with several other CHRs. Trish thought she would probably never have to use her training, and after eight months following the class, her training was put to use. "I was thankful that I had received the training, because somebody needed to take control of the situation," she said. "It seemed that no one

was doing anything."

Frye has worked with the CHR program for the past year and a half as a CHR Generalist. Frye's usual general daily duties include health screening, transporting, home visits and delivering medications, but on this day her duties included being a First Responder.

"I'd like to think I did what anybody would have done," said Frye. "I am thankful for my training and felt prepared to handle this accident in the manner that I did."

AT&T to award tribe Excelerator Grant at luncheon ceremony

The AT&T Excelerator grant program aims to empower community-based organizations through technology

by Carla Brown

MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — On Dec. 15, 2006, AT&T officials will award the Muscogee (Creek) Nation with the AT&T Excelerator Grant at a luncheon to be held at the Housing Authority of the Creek Nation conference room at noon. Don Cain, President of AT&T Oklahoma operations, along with Tulsa AT&T office staff members, will present Principal Chief A.D. Ellis with a check in the amount of \$23,348.

"The AT&T Excelerator Grant will help the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to complete its efforts in fully networking communities with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation central government," said Claude Sumner, Executive Director. "So this, along with National Council funding, is an exciting contribution for completing the success of our goals for networking the nation."

The AT&T Excelerator grant program aims to empower community-based organizations through technology. AT&T Excelerator helps non profits meet their missions by improving technology



resources, including hardware, software and networking tools. AT&T Excelerator grants also help nonprofit organizations put technology tools into the hands of the communities they serve, providing resources such as Internet access, computer training,

math and reading programs, and job skills development.

AT&T Excelerator addresses a wide variety of community needs in four main program areas — Education, Community Development, Health & Human Services,

Housing Authority employees think of others during Christmas holiday

by Jerrad Moore

MNN Staff Writer

OKMULGEE — The holiday season has a strange effect on people. Some people become more miserable, in anticipation of having to spend piles of money on gifts for relatives. Others find great joy in volunteering at community centers and homeless shelters. For some, the well being of others is there only concern.

All year round the employees of Force Account in the Creek Nation Housing division are on call to provide repair services for

the citizens. These hardworking individuals often show up early and stay late in order to provide the services that keep some citizens from literally freezing to death, now that bitter winter temperatures are upon us. It would be easy for them in this holiday season to rationalize focusing on their own families, because they serve all the citizens so well all year long. But these generous hard workers just can't help themselves, and even contribute there hard earned dollar.

Brad Fox was one of the employees who donated. "Every year there's about twenty-three

of us in my department and we always draw names, it's kind of a Christmas thing we do. A couple of us were sitting around one day thinking that maybe we ought to try to do something different this year. Some one brought up Della Cherry's name and we thought we might go see her and that's how it started."

Della Cherry in Community Services was able to provide the name of a needy family that would appreciate the gift. "So instead of drawing names we all just put our money together to try to do something for this family," said Fox. "I don't know who it is, that doesn't

really matter."

It is this type of selfless charity that the Muscogee Nation, and indeed the world, needs, but even this gift is not enough for Brad Fox and his coworkers. "After talking to Cherry and all them, maybe next year, if we can be quick enough, I would like to have the whole division donate." On behalf of the family that received the gift, and all the Creek citizens, this reporter would like to thank Force Account for their generous gift and encourage everyone to donate time or money to the needy, not just during the holidays, but also all year round.

ENHANCED TECHNOLOGY

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation I.T. Department will be spending their efforts towards installing equipment in 13 communities for internet capabilities. Several communities will be receiving equipment and training will be provided as well.

photo by Starla Bush

Letter from the Principal Chief

Seasons Greetings to all tribal citizens:

submitted on December 4, 2006

We here at the capitol complex are just getting over our worst blizzard in Oklahoma history for the month of November.

Several inches of snow and frozen ice underneath is a reason for closing early for two days.

November 29 was 73 degrees and the next day the blizzard. If your around the complex from now until Christmas, stop by after dark and see the Christmas lights.

This will be the first year ever that the tribal complex will be decorated with lights. We have had many (firsts) this past year. Many of which

were new programs to help our citizens and many were just an improvement in tribal government. Chief Perry Beaver always said “Are we better off, than we were last year at this time?” I know the nation is better than we were last year. One thing that I really would like is for our tribal government to unite to do what is best for our nation and not personalities.

Follow tribal law which we all took an oath to do and punish those who do not. This would be a good news years goal for us all.



Chief Ellis

The town hall meeting has been re-scheduled for December 15 in Oklahoma City at Glorietta Baptist Church. All are welcome when I bring the government to our people again.

Again I want to wish a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holidays from my family to yours.

Quote of the month -- I wish we could put up some of the Christmas Spirit in jars and open a jar of it everyday.

Mvto.

A.D. Ellis

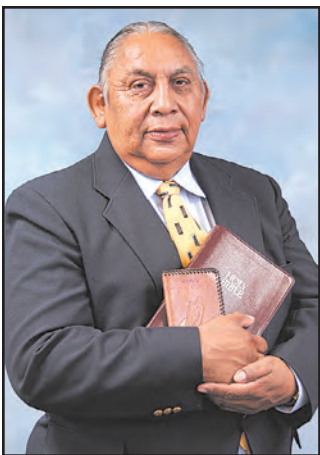
Second Opinion

Anyone for turkey? I trust that all of you had a joyous Thanksgiving. I know that it's always good to be with your family. It's like the Creek song we sing, “Espoketis Omes Kereskos”, “This might be the last time, we don't know.”

The following is an excerpt from the book, “Knights of Spain, Warriors of the Sun” by Charles Hudson.

Horses, Dogs, Pigs

DeSoto's men had as allies a triad of domesticated animals -- horses, dogs and pigs -- that served them in peace and war. These three animals were thoroughly integrated into Spanish life, and particularly so for Extremadurans. Horses conferred a tremendous military advantage on the Spaniards, carrying goods for them and allowing them



Second Chief Berryhill

ground. The hunters would go out on their horses armed with lances. They took along dogs to locate the pigs, drive them to the hunters, and worry the pigs until the hunters could locate the pigs, drive them to the hunters, and worry the pigs until the hunters could ride them down and lance them. It required considerable equestrian skill, as well as bravery on the part of both rider and horse, to lance will pigs from horseback.

The horses that DeSoto brought with him were probably like the “Barb” of today, so called because they were first bred on the Barbary Coast of North Africa and introduced into Spain by the Muslims. In many ways the Barb resembled modern Arabian horses. They were small horses, with exceptionally hard bones and strong tendons. They could carry heavy loads for long distances

at suprisingly fast speeds. They were able to travel distances with little sustenance, and they were famous for continuing to perform after being grievously wounded. The Spanish horse had a broad forehead, and a face tapering to a small muzzle with large, flaring nostrils. It had an arched neck with a long mane and a flowing tail set high. The color was variable. DeSoto started out riding a dappled gray called Aceytuno, named after Mateo de Aceytuno of Havana, who had given him the horse. Nuno de Tovar also rode a dappled gray. Juan Lopez Cacho rode a toasted bay with a black mane and tail. Gonzalo Silvestre, who bragged shamelessly about the virtues of his horse, rode a chestnut with a stockinged left foot and a white strip from the forehead to its muzzle. This horse, by scent only, was able to follow a trail through a swamp along which

DeSoto's army had passed earlier.

DeSoto and his men rode their horses in the rode their horses in the a la jineta style, after the manner of Moors, with their legs slightly flexed so they could maneuver their horses better and wield their lance, and they could do likewise with a sword. They used high Moorish saddles and Moorish bits.

Not only could lancers inflict heavy casualties on Indian warriors, they could prevent them from closing in and doing hand-to-hand combat with Spanish footmen. Indians found few places to hide from the horses. If they could make it to a swamp or canebrake they were safe. Lacking these refuges, they could try to seek cover behind a tree, but any attempt to run brought the great danger of exposing their naked backs to the lance.

The Spaniards would sometimes put their men at risk in order to protect their horses. During the course of the expedition, Baltasar de Gallegos once commanded a contingent of men who were detached from the main army and were trying to catch up with them. They were slowed down when three of their horses became ill. The men grumbled, but Gallegos insisted that they continue their slow pace because the horses were the “neve and sinew” of the army, and the Indians feared them greatly. The chroniclers said the Indians were more intent on killing horses than on killing Spaniards, and when the Indians killed a horse, they were as pleased as if they had killed three or four men.

The Spaniard attached quantities of small copper bells to the trappings of their horses -- in the manner of sleigh bells -- that jingled when their horses moved. These bells were made out of pieces of sheet copper that were individually formed and then soldered together. The bells are spherical, measuring about one and a quarter inches in diameter. An attachment loop of copper was soldered to the top of the bell, and the lower part

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Community appreciates help

Editor:

I am writing to your paper, and the people of the Muscogee tribes to ask if anyone has any knowledge they can give me about our ways. I am not talking about book knowledge. I am talking about knowledge that has been passed down from elders. I will learn it if I can, and I promise I will pass it on and it would be very appreciative. I also wanted to ask if anyone has any extra beads or medicines that they are not using, and if you could please send them to me if you can. We make gifts for elders to honor them, and we use the medicines when we sweat.

I am a youngster who was on the wrong path. I never knew any other life besides drugs

and alcohol. I've been shot, stabbed in the heart, and have overdosed and was brought back to life. All because I was on that wrong path of drugs and alcohol. I've been in and out of juvenile detention center and group homes, sold every drug you could think of and always running from the cops. I caused a lot of pain and hurt a lot of people along that road. All because I was on that wrong path of drugs and alcohol. Those situations should never have been. When I came to prison, I learned a lot about myself, I came back to my culture, and I had the chance to actually sit back and analyze every situation of my life. I've realized my ignorance and am thankful for all that is life.

SEE LETTERS - A8

had a slot cut in it, so sound from a pebble or piece of iron inside would escape freely. The Indians fancied these bells, and archaeologists (who called them Clarksdale bells) have found them in several sites in the neighborhood of the routes traveled by Narvaez. DeSoto and Luna. Perhaps the close association of these little bells with fearsome horses was part of their allure for the Indians.

Well before the sixteenth century Europeans had developed several breeds of large dogs that were used to herd animals, to hunt, and to do battle with and terrorize me. These were the mastiff, a shorthaired heavily muscled dog that could withstand long marches and hold its own against wolves, and was favored in herding sheep and pigs. The swift, lean, greyhound (legrel) was used to hunt and attack large animals such as deer and wild boars, and it could also be trained as a war dog. A third type of dog, the alano, was large attack dog, evidently of several breeds, including large mastiffs and Irish wolfhounds.

Such dogs were used against the Moors in the Reconquest, against the Guanches in the conquest of the Canary Islands, and quite naturally they were taken to the New World to be used against the Indians. The most vicious of these war dogs had to be chained and managed by handlers. But these fierce dogs knew the difference between Spaniard and Indian, and some of them could be sent to chase down a particular Indian. Their handlers could send them on the attack by shouting tomalos! -- “Get them” -- while indicating who was to be the target. To make the dogs even more fearsome, the Spaniards often put spiked leather or wide steel collars around the dog's neck to choke it. And when the dogs were exposed to Indian arrows, the Spaniards sometimes protected the dogs' bodies with escaupiles, jackets of thick, quilted cotton armor. Typically these war dogs would kill by attacking a man's belly and disemboweling him. Often

they would attack a man's genitals.

DeSoto no doubt learned to use dogs against Indians while he was in the service of the sadistic Pedrarias. On one occasion in Leon Viejo, Nicaragua, Pedrarias determine to punish eighteen chiefs who were accused of having killed seven Spanish encomenderos. Pedraris had the captive chiefs brought into the plaza, armed them with short sticks, and set five or six half-grown war dogs against them. The Indians easily beat them off and felt they had withstood their ordeal, but then Pedrarias sent seasoned war dogs against the chiefs. One by one the chiefs were killed and mutilated and their corpses eaten. Citizens of Leon Viejo watched this affair as sport or spectacle. By the time he died, at age ninety, Pedrarias was called El furor Domini -- the Wrath of God -- a title he richly deserved.

TO BE OCONTINUED



Muscogee Nation News November 2006

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Deadline for submissions to be considered for inclusion in the next edition is the **third Friday of the previous month**. **The Muscogee Nation News** reserves the right to edit all submissions for space, style, and grammar. Receipt of submissions does not obligate **The Muscogee Nation News** in any regard.

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District Court Filings for November 2006

Civil:	
Carla Wasson v. Steve Shell Jr.	Petition
Carpet King v. Allan Ashleigh	Foreign Judgment
James Baldrige v. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation	Petition
Continental Credit v. Derek Fife	Petition
Royal Finance v. David Hale	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Barbara Lane	Small Claims
Royal Finance v. Michael Lauder milk	Small Claims
Cash Finance of Tulsa v. Samantha Baker	Petition
Money Services Inc. v. Samantha Baker	Petition
Muscogee (Creek) Nation v. (1) Browning Automatic 300 Winchester Mag Rifle, Serial #62132M77 and (1) Chinese made SKS 7.62 X39 Caliber Rifle Serial #1500107	Notice of Seizure and Intended Forfeiture
Divorce:	
Tronia Williams v. Jim Clay Williams	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Doug Murphy v. Sherri Lee Murphy	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Kimberly Kolakowski v. Dennis Kolakowski	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
F. W. Perkins v. W. L. Perkins	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Gilbert Eugene Dan Jr. v. Tona L. Dan	Petition for Dissolution of Marriage
Protective Orders:	
Robin Cooper Holland v. Carl Holland Jr.	Ex-Parte
Criminal Felonies:	
MCN v. Aaron Mitchell Welch	Ct. 1: Possession of illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Carrying Firearm
MCN v. Alena Price	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs Ct. 2: Possession of Paraphernalia
MCN v. Ronald Farmer	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Phillip Andrew Cole	Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs

	Ct. 2: Disorderly Conduct Ct. 3: Possession of Firearm while on Tribal Land Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drugs
MCN v. Jamie Don Smith	<u>Criminal Misdemeanors:</u> MCN v. Helen Smith
MCN v. Jennifer Drodge	
MCN v. Billy Wayne Huddleston	Ct. 1 Public Intoxication Ct. 2: Possession of Alcohol Ct. 1: Possession of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia Ct. 1: Resisting Arrest Ct. 2: Disorderly Conduct Ct. 1: Trespassing Ct. 1: Disorderly Conduct Ct. 1: Public Intoxication Ct. 1: Public Intoxication Ct. 2: Disorderly Conduct
<u>Traffic:</u>	
MCN v. Cooper Kanwhen	Starting, Turning & Stopping without Regard to Safety Failure to Wear Safety Belt Expired Tag Driving with Expired License Expired Tag Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct No Drivers License No Insurance Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct Disorderly Conduct No Seatbelt Driving Under Suspension Driving without Required Registration Driving on Tribal Property without Drivers Licence No Insurance Verification Driving without Required Registration
MCN v. Misty L. Frost	
MCN v. Misty L. Frost	
MCN v. Misty L. Frost	
MCN v. Tara Alice Terrell	
MCN v. Michael James Dayton	
MCN v. Helen Smith	
MCN v. Tiffany Marie Wing	
MCN v. Tiffany Marie Wing	
MCN v. Tiffany Marie Wing	
MCN v. Tiffany Marie Wing	
MCN v. Mark Allen Dillion	
MCN v. Mark Allen Dillion	
MCN v. Richard Moore Jr.	
MCN v. Richard Moore Jr.	
MCN v. Jimmy Don Ward Jr.	
MCN v. Jimmy Don Ward Jr.	
MCN v. Jimmy Don Ward Jr.	
MCN v. William P. Lupardus	

SEE DISTRICT COURT - A8

From the desk of the Speaker
HE(N)SCI !!!

In behalf of the members of the 14th session of the National Council of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

During the monthly meeting of the National Council on November 18, some legislations that were addressed and of interest are:

TR 06-152, a Tribal resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing the Principal Chief to hire legal counsel to file

Trust Claims against the Federal Government. The Resolution was adopted unanimously and the process has started to eventually file Trust



Tiger

Claims. This Resolution is of historic importance as many Tribes throughout the country have filed their claims against the federal government. I did not want this opportunity slip through our fingers for recovering unpaid mineral and land lease royalty revenues and was honored to sponsor the Resolution before the deadline of December 31st to file such claims. To have allowed that to happen would be of grave consequences.

TR 06-156, a Tribal Resolution of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation to define and authorize an Oversight committee for the Tulsa Casino Development. Previous Development Committee did not allow input from the Gaming Operations Authority Board (GOAB). GOAB serves in a very important role and has oversight of all of our gaming operations. The Resolution was deemed necessary as the previous development committee ceased to function effectively to provide necessary direction on expenditures of the project.

NCA 06-229, a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for Distance Learning Education through Wes Watkins Technology Center and Haskell Indian Nations University for Muscogee (Creek) Nation students. The \$40,000.00 appropriation will allow tribal students the opportunity to take classes on a local basis for college credit through the use of technology to successfully complete requirements toward their career of choice.

NCA 06-238, a law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to support a political candidate who is a Muscogee citizen and will advocate for the best interest of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. This \$1,000 appropriation to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation community centers. This \$39,550 appropriation will allow all communities the ability to view National Council and other governmental activities of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

NCA 06-250, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending NCA 06-020 (A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation appropriating funds for the construction of a new Veterans Building) to appropriate additional funds for Bronze Sculptures to honor the Mvskoke Veteran and for additional construction costs. The additional appropriation allows sculptures to be appropriately placed honoring our Mvskoke Warriors.

NCA 06-252, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to the 24 chartered communities for the purpose of enhancing and enriching the 2006 Christmas activities for citizens. The \$48,000 appropriation will assist the respective communities with Christmas activities.

NCA 06-253, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to 16 Muscogee (Creek) Ceremonial Grounds to assist with providing Christmas to creek families. The \$4,800.00 appropriation will assist the respective Ceremonial Grounds with Christmas activities.

NCA 06-254, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation authorizing a special appropriation to traditional Creek Indian churches to assist with providing Christmas to Creek families. The \$30,000 appropriation will assist the respective churches with Christmas activities.

SEE SPEAKER - A8

Muscogee National Council overview

OKMULGEE — THE FOLLOWING CONSISTS OF ACTIONS OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL CONDUCTED AT THE September 26, EMERGENCY SESSION.

September 26, EMERGENCY SESSION

ABSENT WERE: REPRESENTATIVE **LARRY BIBLE** EXCUSED FOR THIS MEETING.

VETO MESSAGE:

- APPROVED TO OVERRIDE

VETO, (18-7-0) TR 06-125, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION CONFIRMING THE NOMINATION AND APPOINTMENT OF **JUDY AARON** TO THE POSITION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION;

VOTING NO WERE: **TOM PICKERING; PETE BEAVER; BO JOHNSON; SYLVANNA CALDWELL; PAULA WILLITS; RICHARD BERRYHILL; AND JOHNNIE GREENE.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (24-0-0) NCA 06-221, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING A CONTINUING ORDINANCE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2007 COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL BUDGET AT THE APPROVED FY 2006 APPROPRIATION;

October 24, 2006, **EMERGENCY SESSION**

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT ARE: **TOM PICKERING; PETE BEAVER AND CHERRAH QUIETT.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

REPRESENTATIVE **PETE BEAVER** ARRIVED.

- APPROVED (24-0-0) NCR 06-006, NCR 06-006; A RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE INVOLVEMENT OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION IN SEEKING TO SUBMIT BRIEFS AS AMICUS CURIAE WITH THE OKLAHOMA SUPREME COURT IN SUPPORT OF THE PUYALLUP TRIBE SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT;**

October 28, 2006, **QUARTERLY SESSION**

REPRESENTATIVES ABSENT ARE: **TOM PICKERING; PETE BEAVER AND CHERRAH QUIETT.**

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

REPRESENTATIVE **PETE BEAVER** ARRIVED.

- APPROVED, (22-0-0) TR 06-101, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROVING THE FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES; CO-SPONSOR: EDDIE LAGRONE**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-129, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A STREET/UTILITY RIGHT OF WAY AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF OKMULGEE SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-133, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TR 05-087 “ELIGIBILITY, ADMISSIONS, AND OCCUPANCY POLICY” OF THE HOUSING DIVISION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AS AMENDED BY TR 05-168, TR 06-020 AND TR 06-059 SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-135, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF

THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO CARRY OVER FISCAL YEAR 2006 FUNDS FOR THE DENTURE PROGRAM AND FOR THE TRIBAL DENTAL PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FOR CONTINUITY IN SERVICES SPONSOR: **LENA WIND; CO-SPONSOR: T. SCOTT**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-138, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO EXECUTE A MASTER EQUIPMENT LEASE AGREEMENT WITH SIEMENS FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. TO LEASE EQUIPMENT FOR THE KOWETA INDIAN HEALTH FACILITY SPONSOR: **RICHARD BERRYHILL; CO-SPONSOR: J. GREENE**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-141, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE TRANSFER OF TITLE OF A DOUBLE-WIDE TRAILER TO THE TULSA CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY FROM CREEK NATION TULSA CASINO SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: CHERRAH QUIETT**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-142, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO ENTER INTO A FINANCING AGREEMENT WITH MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INCORPORATED FOR TEMPORARY FINANCING TO FUND THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CASINO AT THE MACKAY SITE UNTIL PERMANENT FINANCING CAN BE OBTAINED SPONSOR: **BILL FIFE**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) TR 06-143, A TRIBAL RESOLUTION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING TR 05-128 THE “MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM POLICY” OF THE HOUSING DIVISION OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION, AS AMENDED BY TR 06-020 SPONSOR: **JEFF FIFE; CO-SPONSOR(S): J. JENNINGS; R. BARNETT**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-176, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE A.C.C.E.S. INDIAN CLUB OF THE HASKELL INDIAN NATIONS UNIVERSITY TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO ITS MEMBERS SPONSOR: **ROBERT JONES (\$17,000.00)**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-181, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING WELEETKA INDIAN COMMUNITY CENTER FOR A NUTRITION CENTER SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT; CO-SPONSOR: BILL FIFE (\$335,000.00)**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-192, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO HONEY CREEK METHODIST CHURCH FOR REPAIRS CAUSED BY NATURAL DISASTER SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT (\$46,883.33)**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-199, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE OKEMAH CASINO EXPANSION PROJECT SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT (\$406,310.00)**

- APPROVED TO RETURN TO COMMITTEE (12-10-0) NCA 06-207, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK)

NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 36, §3-102, L. TO REFLECT THAT THE AGE DEFINITION FOR “SENIOR CITIZEN” HAS BEEN REVISED TO ENSURE CONSISTENCY WITH THE ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM’S DEFINITION OF “SENIOR CITIZEN” AND WILL ALSO APPLY TO OTHER PROGRAMS AND SERVICES UNDER THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION’S UMBRELLA OF SERVICES SPONSOR: **RON CLEGHORN; CO-SPONSOR: BILL FIFE**

VOTING NO WERE: **DUKE HARJO, ROGER BARNETT, EDDIE LAGRONE, BILL FIFE, KEEPER JOHNSON, JEFF FIFE, BO JOHNSON, SHIRLENE ADE, RON CLEGHORN AND SAM ALEXANDER;**

- RETURN TO COMMITTEE (22-0-0) NCA 06-213, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 11, “COMMUNITIES,” TO ENACT A NEW CHAPTER EIGHT ENTITLED, “PURCHASE OF PROPERTY FOR USE BY CHARTERED COMMUNITIES” SPONSOR: **PAULA WILLITS**

- APPROVED AS AMENDED (22-0-0) NCA 06-215, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 22, §4-104.B. AND §4-104.C TO AMEND THE COMPOSITION OF THE HEALTH SYSTEM BOARD OF DIRECTORS SPONSOR: **TRAVIS SCOTT**

REPRESENTATIVE **THOMAS YAHOLA** OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED (21-0-0) NCA 06-216, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 05-279 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE HEALTH SYSTEMS FOR THE 4TH ANNUAL PINK PARTY, AN ANNUAL HEALTH EDUCATION ACTIVITY OF BREAST CANCER AWARENESS) AND NCA 06-029 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM FOR THE PURCHASE OF ORTHOTICS AND PROSTHETICS FOR CREEK CITIZENS WHO ARE DIABETIC) TO ALLOW FOR THE CARRYOVER OF UNEXPENDED FUNDS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 FOR THE PEDORTHICS PROGRAM AND FOR THE PINK PARTY FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS THROUGH THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION HEALTH SYSTEM SPONSOR: **LENA WIND; CO-SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-219, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF THIRD PARTY FUNDS FOR OKEMAH HOSPITAL PHASE 1 AND AUTHORIZING AN APPROPRIATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A DENTAL FACILITY AT OKEMAH SPONSOR: **LENA WIND;**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-226, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO SHELTON SCHOOL & EVALUATION CENTER TO ASSIST WITH THE EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES OF **KELSI SEWELL** FOR THE 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR SPONSOR: **DUKE HARJO (\$2,000.00)**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-227, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF COPS OFFICE TRIBAL RESOURCES GRANT PROGRAM FOR FY 2007 AND AP-

PROPRIATING TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT MATCHING FUNDS SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO; CO-SPONSOR: JEFF FIFE (\$45,787.00)**

REPRESENTATIVE **BO JOHNSON** OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED (20-1-0) NCA 06-228, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR THE INTER-TRIBAL REORGANIZATION TO ASSIST IN PROVIDING A FULL-TIME STAFF FOR THE FIVE TRIBES SPONSOR: **ANTHONY NOTARO; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$50,000.00);**

VOTING NO WERE: **KEEPER JOHNSON;**

REPRESENTATIVE **BO JOHNSON** OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- APPROVED (20-1-0) NCA 06-230, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION FOR TWO BRONZE BUSTS COMMEMORATING THE LATE **ALLIE REYNOLDS,** A MUSCOGEE (CREEK) CITIZEN AND FOUNDER OF THE RED EARTH FESTIVAL SPONSOR: **GEORGE TIGER; CO-SPONSOR: PETE BEAVER (\$22,000.00);**

VOTING NO WERE: **RICHARD BERRYHILL;**

REPRESENTATIVE **BO JOHNSON** OUT OF SEAT AT TIME OF CASTING OF VOTE.

- NCA 06-233, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING MCNCA TITLE 37, §2-203, ENTITLED “PERMANENT FUND” SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR: TRAVIS SCOTT**

MOTION CARRIED. NCA 06-233 WAS APPROVED AND WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE SPEAKER FOR HIS SIGNATURE AND WILL BE RECORDED IN THE JOURNAL OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL.

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-234, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AMENDING NCA 06-113 (A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO PROVIDE 300 CUSTOM MADE SERVICE BRANCH VESTS FOR MUSCOGEE VETERANS) TO ALLOW FOR FUNDS TO BE CARRIED FORWARD UNTIL FULLY EXPENDED SPONSOR: **ROGER BARNETT; CO-SPONSOR: ANTHONY NOTARO;**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-235, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING THE APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM AND POTABLE WATER SYSTEM LOCATED AT THE INDUSTRIAL PARK SPONSOR: **EDDIE LAGRONE (\$380,000.00);**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-237, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION APPROPRIATING START-UP FUNDS FOR THE TULSA CREEK INDIAN COMMUNITY RETAIL TOBACCO OUTLET SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER; CO-SPONSOR: CHERRAH QUIETT (\$125,000.00);**

- APPROVED (22-0-0) NCA 06-232, A LAW OF THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION AUTHORIZING A SPECIAL APPROPRIATION TO THE OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF TO HIRE LEGAL COUNSEL TO RESEARCH AND DEVELOP A PLAN TO RECLAIM THE ARKANSAS RIVERBED IN TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA SPONSOR: **SAM ALEXANDER (\$40,000.00).**



Winners of the 1st annual golf tournament pictured in no particular order: Jess Youngblood, Will Freeman, Pete Beaver and Dean Hughes.



Ryal school honored Mvskoke veterans

Doke and James Aultman. Third Place winners were Team #13, Matt Tiger, Charley Johnson, Robert Whitekiller, and Sabor Jackson.

The month of November was a busy month. We had elections, celebrated Veterans Day, Johnson O’Malley Challenge Bowl, National Native American Heritage Month, 4th Annual Basketball Warriors Shootout for Junior High and Elementary students, and Thanksgiving Dinners throughout the Muscogee (Creek) Nation. But, we have also lost some loved ones this month, please remember to say a special prayer for these families during the holidays.

Oklahoma 2006 elections were

interesting this year as there were a number of Native Americans running for office. The Muscogee (Creek) National Council supported 12 political candidates, nine were elected to office, one withdrew and two lost. Out of these nine elected to office, six are Native American.



McIntosh representative, Anthony Notaro show his support by voting.

TulsaPromotions



CASINO PROMOTIONS:

\$500K FREE FOR ALL GIVEAWAY: \$100,000 MUST GO JANUARY 1!

Be a part of \$500 cash drawings every Sunday through Thursday and \$250 cash drawings every Friday and Saturday. Come back every Sunday at 11 pm for the \$2,500 weekly drawing. All players who win any of these drawings will come back on January 1 for our \$100,000 grand prize! Also on January 1, we will hold hourly drawings for \$1,000 from 9 am to 7 pm. If you aren't one of the lucky ones who qualified for the \$100,000, you still have a shot as we will qualify an additional 25 players before the grand prize drawing! (Daily Cash Drawings at 11 am, 2 pm, 5 pm, 8 pm, and 11 pm)

NEW YEAR'S EVE VEGAS CARNIVAL

Experience Creek Nation Casino and New Year's Eve like never before this year at our New Year's Eve Carnival. This year's big celebration will keep you entertained all night long with performances from The Return: The Beatles Tribute Band and Bennie & the Jets: The Elton John Tribute Band. Strolling entertainment such as showgirls, living statues and others will be featured throughout the casino during the night. Hourly cash drawings will be held from 8 pm to 2 am as well as a drawing at midnight for a trip for two to Las Vegas to stay in the Rio Hotel and Casino. Drawings from 8 pm to 11 pm will be for \$1,000 and the drawings at 1 am and 2 am will be for \$2,500. To enter just swipe your Players Club card at Guest Services beginning at 6 pm.

STOCKING STUFFER SATURDAYS

Need a little extra cash for the holidays? We think \$25,000 should make this holiday sea-

son a memorable one with our Stocking Stuffer Saturdays promotion. Each Saturday from December 2 - 23 we will draw one person's name every hour from 1 pm to 10 pm to choose one of our 10 lucky stockings. Each stocking will contain casino cash ranging from \$50 to \$500. After the 10 pm drawing each week we will draw for one more person who will win \$500 and have a chance to pick from one of 100 other stockings. One of these stockings will contain the grand prize of \$25,000! To enter the promotion just swipe your Players Club card between 11 am and 10 pm on the days of the promotion.

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT (LADIES NIGHT)

Ladies, reach for the sky with The Sky's the Limit promotion. Don't miss your chance at \$2,500 in cash prizes and a 2007 Mitsubishi Eclipse or Saturn Sky every Monday. Swipe your card at Guest Services each Monday beginning at 5 pm, because every fifteen minutes from 6 pm to 10 pm a name will be drawn for fifteen seconds in our money machine! The two ladies with the most money after the 10 pm drawing will earn a key to return for the Saturn Sky giveaway on December 18. (10 additional qualifiers at 7 pm).

THE SKY'S THE LIMIT (MEN'S NIGHT)

Guys, the ladies aren't the only ones who have a shot of winning a new set of wheels. You have your chance each Wednesday night during The Sky's the Limit promotion, with \$2,500 in cash prizes and a chance to win a 2007 Toyota Camry Solara Sport Coupe or Chevy Equinox. Swipe your card at Guest Services each Wednesday beginning at 5 pm, because every fifteen

minutes from 6 pm to 10 pm a name will be drawn for fifteen seconds in our money machine! The two guys with the most money after the 10 pm drawing will earn a key to return for the Chevy Equinox giveaway on December 20. (10 additional qualifiers at 7 pm).

SENIORS WAKE UP AND WIN

Seniors, rise and shine at Creek Nation Casino Mondays and Tuesdays in December. From 7 am to 11 am, the first 500 seniors will receive \$5 match play on selected machines and \$4 off the Full Moon Café's \$5.99 breakfast buffet. What better way to start the day than with Creek Nation Casino's Wake Up and Win promotion? (Mondays and Tuesdays, 7 am - 11 am)

POKER PROMOTIONS:

THE BIG BOUNTY POKER TOURNAMENT

Play in The Big Bounty, our newest No Limit Hold'em Tournament every Thursday and Sunday at 7 pm and receive an extra \$20 for every player you eliminate! Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$115.

DAILY RIVER SHOWDOWN

Pull up a seat in Oklahoma's most upscale Poker Room for our Daily River Showdown tournaments starting at 9:30 am. The tournaments are open to everyone, with a total buy-in of \$50.00.

LADIES TEXAS HOLD'EM TOURNAMENTS

Ladies Night Texas Hold'em tournaments start at 7 pm every Monday. Registration begins at 6:30 pm and is open to all ladies, with a total buy-in of just \$30.00.

MEN'S NIGHT - THE BIG ONE POKER TOURNAMENT

The Big One, Creek Nation Casino's Men's Night no-limit Texas Hold'em tournament starts at 7 pm every Wednesday, with registration beginning at 6:30 pm (\$115 total buy-in). Now with an extra \$1,000 added to the pot each week!

TEXAS HOLD'EM PROGRESSIVE BAD BEAT JACKPOTS

Losing Never Felt So Good! Creek Na-

tion Casino's new Progressive Bad Beat Jackpots consist of three separate progressive jackpots awarded to hands of aces full of jacks losing to a better hand. The jackpot is currently at \$50,000!

TEXAS HOLD'EM HIGH HANDS

Good hands are hard to come by, and at Creek Nation Casino, Texas Hold'em high hands pay bonuses 24 hours a day, seven days a week with progressive bonuses on four of a kind, straight flush, and royal flush hands increasing \$100 a day.

MONTHLY MONSTER POKER TOURNAMENT

Don't miss our Monthly Monster No-Limit Texas Hold'em Tournament on the first Tuesday of each month. Register beginning at 5:30 pm, with a \$330 Buy-in. Satellite tournaments available daily, 9 am - 9 pm.

FIVE STACKS OF HIGH SOCIETY \$50,000 FREE ROLL POKER TOURNAMENT

Be one of the top 40 players with the most hours or most tournament points to be awarded a seat into our Five Stacks of High Society \$50,000 Free Roll Poker Tournament. Plus one lucky person will be drawn for the wild card spot. Earn additional entries every time you buy in. See Poker Room for more details.

BLACKJACK PROMOTIONS:

CLUB 21

Join the club, and earn your share of \$23,500 each week during the new "Club 21" promotion in the blackjack pit. Club 21 occurs every Monday through Thursday with half hour cash drawings for \$250 from 12 pm to 6 pm. Come back on Sundays during the same time as we up the ante and we award three winners each hour \$500. All players will earn a \$10 bonus for suited blackjack of clubs and everyone else at the table earns our famous \$5 Envy Bonus. If you receive a suited blackjack of clubs or buy in for \$100 you will receive an entry into the Sunday through Thursday drawings. (Sunday - Thursday)

Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise updates

MNBE Hires San Antonio Regional Manager

OKMULGEE - Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise is announcing the hiring of Frank Morales as the San Antonio Regional Manager. MNBE has approximately 40 contract employees at Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio Texas and 20 employees at Ft. Hood in Killeen Texas.

"Frank Morales brings extensive experience in high level IT solutions including product sales and service and program management," said Michael Nalley, Director of MNBE. "Frank will be responsible for managing the existing contracts and employees we have in Texas and identifying and capturing new business in that market."

MNBE opens new office in Huntsville Alabama

OKMULGEE - Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise is announcing the opening of a new office in Huntsville Alabama. MNBE has hired Tom Gregory, a Creek Tribal member as the Southeast

Regional Manager. Tom is recently retired from the United States Army where he was a Captain and the Anti Terror/ Force Protection Officer for the Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville.

"MNBE has been looking at various locations throughout the United States where the BRAC will be creating new opportunities for businesses and Huntsville is anticipating a large growth in the very near future," said Woody Anderson, Sales Manager. "With Tom Gregory's background in Force Protection and Security and his relationships at Redstone Arsenal it is a great strategic hire for MNBE and we expect great things to happen in Huntsville."

Small Business Administration approves Mentor/Protege Agreement between MNBE and MACTEC

OKMULGEE -The Small Business Administration has approved a Mentor-Protégé agreement between Muscogee Nation Business Enterprise and MACTEC, Inc. that will provide

assistance to MNBE in the SBA 8(a) Program development of its Government construction business, including without limitation, technical and/or management assistance, financial assistance, subcontracts, bonding, and/or assistance in performing prime contracts with the Government; and such assistance from MACTEC is for the purpose of enhancing the capabilities of MNBE and to improve MNBE's ability to successfully compete for contracts.

MACTEC, Inc. is headquartered in Atlanta, GA with 100 U.S. offices and 3,000

employees. MACTEC provides services to over 7,000 customers worldwide.

"MNBE is excited about the agreement with MACTEC, which will open up numerous opportunities

that will have a positive impact all three business divisions of our company," said Michael Nalley, Director of MNBE.



Okmulgee MNBE staff

Reintegration Program Client appreciation picnic



The Reintegration Program staff and volunteers, along with guest speaker, Bobby Boone.

HENRYETTA - On Oct. 28 the Muscogee (Creek) Nations Reintegration Program hosted the first annual Client Appreciation Picnic. There were approximately 75 people in attendance that enjoyed the fellowship and motivational speaking. They were served grilled hamburgers and hotdogs.

Everyone who attended received a door prize that was donated by various programs and entities within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and local vendors. The Reintegration Program hosted the picnic to show their appreciation for all the hard work the clients have put forth in becoming productive citizens.

The guest speaker was Bobby Boone, Deputy Director for the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. Boone gave a motivational speech over reentry and the importance it has within our communities. Davis Correctional Facility in Holdenville donated the use of their smoker for this event.

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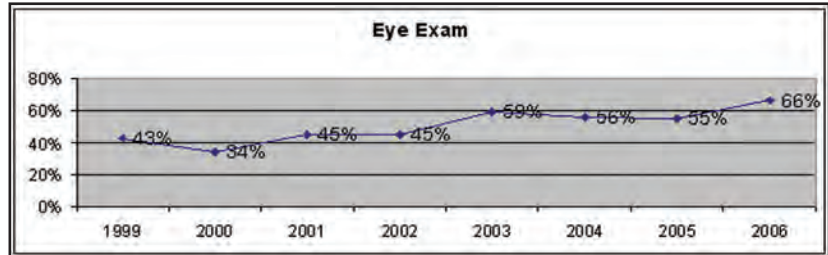
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THIS FACILITY IS REGULATED BY THE MUSCOGEE (CREEK) NATION OFFICE OF PUBLIC GAMING

Diabetes Care in Muscogee (Creek) Nation continues to improve

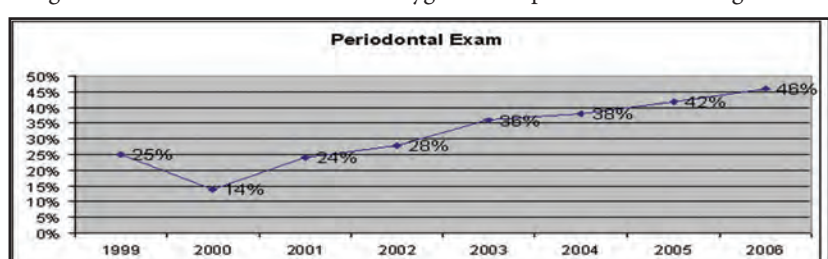
The IHS Diabetes Care Audits in Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System show gradual improvement in eye care over the past seven years. Persons with diabetes are at high risk for decreased vision due to retinopathy, a disease that can result in blindness. Early detection with yearly screening of the retina can identify the need for intervention that is highly effective in prevent-



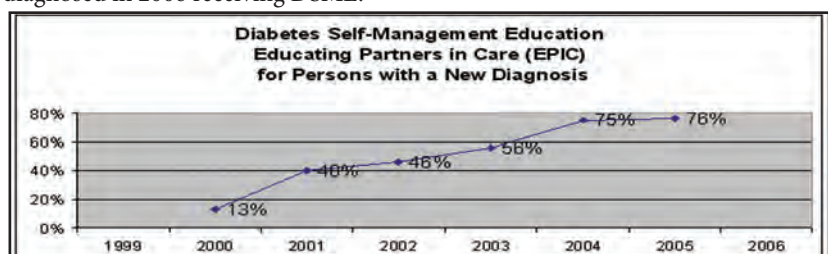
ing blindness.

This is the first year that MCNHS has met the 61% goal established by the American Diabetes Association as the minimal proportion of diabetes patients that should receive annual eye exams. All persons with diabetes have had access to dilated retinal photos and glaucoma screening since 1999 at each clinic. In the past 2 years, access to these services has increased with an added optometrist at both Sapulpa and Koweta. The Joslin Vision Network, a tele-ophthalmology eye screening, initiated this year has also increased access to quality screening at Okmulgee and Eufaula where an optometrist are not yet available on-site.

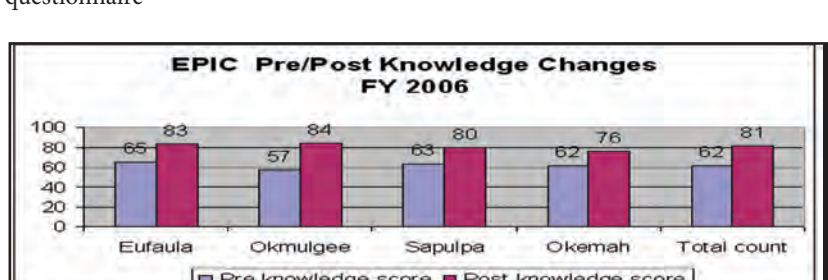
The proportion of persons with diabetes receiving dental screening has gradually improved. Persons with diabetes have a greater risk for having gum inflammation that leads to loss of teeth. Intervention includes daily flossing and brushing as well as regular visits to the dentist or dental hygienist for professional cleaning.



Diabetes Self Management Education is becoming accepted as a necessary part of diabetes care by persons with diabetes and their providers. Most persons receive this education when they are first diagnosed. The trend is positive with 76% of persons diagnosed in 2006 receiving DSME.



EPIC improves knowledge. In each clinic, participants in the EPIC program increased knowledge of diabetes and its care to greater than 80% of a 100-point questionnaire



Participants completing the EPIC program also reduced their A1c's. The A1c is the average blood sugar for the past 2-3 months. The goal is to be below 7.

Body Mass Index is body weight relative to height. One point for BMI equals about 6-7 lbs. This year group measures in all clinics showed good weight loss.

Doctors Note, Flu Vaccinations

by Zack Anderson MD, MPH

As we approach this winter's flu season, we are strongly encouraging citizens to get a flu shot this year. The effects of the flu can be devastating. Flu complications can be largely avoided by annual vaccination.

The single best way to protect against the flu is to get vaccinated each year.

There are two types of vaccines, the flu shot is an inactivated vaccine (containing killed virus) that is given with a needle, usually in the arm. The flu shot is approved for use in people older than six months, including healthy people and people with chronic medical conditions. The nasal-spray flu vaccine is a vaccine made with live, weakened flu viruses that do not cause the flu (sometimes called LAIV for "Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine"). LAIV is approved for use in healthy people five years to 49 years of age who are not pregnant.

Each vaccine contains three influenza viruses-one A (H3N2) virus, one A (H1N1) virus, and one B virus. The viruses in the vaccine change each year based on international surveillance and scientists' estimations about which types and strains of viruses will circulate in a given year.

About two weeks after vaccination, antibodies that provide protection against influenza virus infection develop in the body.

In general, anyone who wants to reduce their chances of getting the flu can get vaccinated. However, it is recommended by ACIP that certain

people should get vaccinated each year. They are either people who are at high risk of having serious flu complications or people who live with or care for those at high risk for serious complications. People at high risk for complications from the flu, include children age six months until their fifth birthday, pregnant women, people 50 years of age and older, and people of any age with certain chronic medical conditions; people who live in nursing homes and other long term care facilities.

People who live with or care for those at high risk for complications from flu, include household contacts of persons at high risk for complications from the flu (see above) household contacts and out of home caregivers of children less than six months of age (these children are too young to be vaccinated) and healthcare workers.

There are some people who should not be vaccinated without first consulting a physician. These include people who have a severe allergy to chicken eggs, people who have had a severe reaction to an influenza vaccination in the past, people who developed Guillain-Barré syndrome (GBS) within six weeks of getting an influenza vaccine previously.

Influenza vaccine is not approved for use in children less than 6 months of age. I would like to say MTVO to Dr. Vark for supplying us with this information, and to the tribal citizens for allowing the MCNHS to share this information with you.

Healthy Heart Program helps diabetics lower their heart risk

by J. Brasuell, MCN Diabetes Coordinator

OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation's Healthy Heart Project will be available for application in December and January. The Diabetes Program staffs in each clinic community are looking for volunteers to enroll in the second year of the Healthy Heart Project (HHP). Approximately 20 participants from each clinic community will be recruited. Koweta clinic community will not be included this year due to the strenuous task of organizing basic diabetes care and education.

National Health Statistics state that health disease and stroke account for 70% of deaths in people with diabetes. These risks are 2 to 4 times higher in persons with diabetes than those without diabetes. The Healthy Heart Project is a special grant program that uses the

current medical and behavioral science to help reduce these risks in American Indians living in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation (MCN).

What is the Healthy Heart Project? The HHP provides intensive management to persons with diabetes to help reduce their high risk for heart disease and stroke. A nurse case manager assists patients to bring all available clinical, educational and life-style services to bear on this task. This project was requested by Congress to determine if current interventions will be effective in the American Indian population.

Current research has shown that risks can be reduced, by controlling blood sugar, blood pressure, cholesterol and weight. Other measures like stopping smoking, taking aspirin daily and exercis-

ing daily also are important in maintaining heart health. All of these will be the focus of the Healthy Heart Project. Why Should You Join the MCN Healthy Heart Project? It will help you keep a check on all diabetes risks. You will be helped to keep these risks in healthy ranges. You will help us learn the best ways to prevent heart disease in persons with diabetes.

Who Can Join the Project? Persons with type 2 diabetes, 18 years of age and older who are willing to participate in monthly clinic visits until all risk factors are in healthy ranges. You should be willing to stay in the project for up to 2 years. For more information, contact the Diabetes Program in your clinic area. You may also call the Healthy Heart Project Data Coordinator at the MCN Health System at (918) 756-3334, ext. 253.

Move It! and Prevent Diabetes Program

OKEMAH — In its fourth year, the Move It! program works with more than 1300 students in 8 schools to increase student participation in physical activity. This is the 3rd and final year for the Okfuskee Co. Schools (Mason, Weleetka, Graham, and Bearden). This is the second year for the Okmulgee/Creek Co. Schools (Wilson and Mounds). The two new schools in the 1st year of the Move It! program are Wetumka and Dewar public schools in Hughes and Okmulgee counties.



Move It! Program participants

The Move It program lasts for three years. During the three years we try to impact the school's PE pro-

gram, school lunch program, school health policies, and the overall way

the students and staff look at their health. We believe the new attitudes toward a healthy school environment and school health policies will help the school sustain the healthy changes for years to come.

Throughout the three years, the Diabetes Program Exercise Managers work closely with the PE teacher at each school by providing training and equipment to improve the quality



Move It! Program participants

of Physical Education offered at each school. The Exercise Managers work with the elementary students from these schools every two weeks starting in October and ending in May.

"We teach diabetes prevention lessons and encourage the student to be more physically active after school by providing monthly prize drawings for students who turn in "Move It! coupons for exercising/playing 30 minutes for each coupon," said Scott Robison. "This program has shown positive outcomes in pre/post fitness testing and feedback from parents and school staff. We hope to continue adding 400- 500 students (2-4 schools) each year."

This program is provided by the MCN Diabetes Program and the Oklahoma State Health Department. The funding for this program is provided by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation "NENE HVKOCE" Walking Trails Program

OKMULGEE — Started in October, the Walking Trails Program is on track to sign up over 700 people. This has far exceeded the goal of 500 set in the original plan.

"We are excited about the healthy benefits the participants will receive from walking everyday," said Scott Robison.

The Diabetes Program staff visited Indian Community Centers throughout the month of October and November to tell community members about the Walking Program. At the request of the communities, the Diabetes staff returned for walking program sign-ups. Fourteen different communities have signed up a walking team (20 people or more). These include Wetumka, Okemah, Okfuskee, Paden, Holdenville, Okmulgee, Sapulpa, Tulsa, Muskogee, Checotah, Eufaula, Stidham, Duck Creek, and Hanna.

Other communities with less than 20 people signed up include Dewar, Bristow, Morris, Glenpool, Wilson, Twin Hills, and Cromwell. Sign ups have also included Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tribal and Health System employees. These employees have signed up for their chosen communities. These communities have started walking and are reporting their pedometers steps, miles and minutes. They are earning individual points to redeem for incentives at their area's Fun and Fitness Days starting monthly in December or January. At the end of the year, community points will be totaled for a chance to win a community walking trail.

"We will continue to sign up community groups throughout the month of December," said Robison. "January 6, 2007 will be the deadline for signing up

for this year's walking program. Each clinic area will have a final sign-up January 6 for anyone who missed the original sign-ups in



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis weighs in for walking program.

their community." The locations for these final sign-ups will be determined during the month of December. For more information call the contact numbers below.



Principal Chief A.D. Ellis signs on to participate in the Walking Program

Some reminders and important information for all walking program participants include: The number for calling in your walking logs is (800) 840-8491, the

fax number for faxing in logs is (918) 752-0140.

Call in days are: Monday - Okemah and Coweta areas, Tuesday - Sapulpa and Eufaula areas, Wednesday - Okmulgee area. For those having a problem with your pedometer resetting, keep the pedometer on "Clock" mode. When on clock mode the pedometer is safe from resetting.

For those who are starting to increase your physical activity, start slowly and work your way up. Start with a 5-10 minute structured walking session until you feel strong enough to work up to 15-20 minutes and so on.

If you have diabetes, pay close attention to your shoes and feet. Blisters can form and lead to problems if your shoes do not fit well or if there is a pre-existing foot condition. Properly fitted shoes and examining your feet each day are important to prevent problems arising from increased walking. All participants with diabetes should contact their local diabetes clinic to have their feet examined. They may qualify for better fitting walking shoes. If you have quit using your pedometer or logging your

activity, please call the Diabetes program. We would like to help you get started again or give your pedometer to another participant.

If you have any questions or if you would like to sign-up for the program call your local Diabetes Program Exercise Manager and they can give you information on the next sign up in your area. Eufaula area - Kimberlee Little, (918) 689-2540, ext. 257 Koweta area - William Fixico, (918) 224-9310, ext. 238 Okemah area - Scott Robison 1-800-219-9458 Ext. 458 Okmulgee area - Irene Culley (918) 756-9911 Ext. 334 Sapulpa area - William Fixico (918) 224-9310 Ext. 238.

SEASON'S GREETINGS

We at the Housing Division would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.



Muscogee (Creek) Nation
HOUSING DIVISION

Think Safe Be Safe: HOME FIRE PREVENTION TIPS

The home, whether it's a house, mobile home, condominium or apartment can be a potentially dangerous structure if its occupants are not aware of fire hazards and how to prevent them. The following, are some causes that are preventable:

COOKING FIRES

Cooking fires are a major cause of home fires. They are usually caused by cooking oil overheating (without someone to watch it), grease that has accumulated on the stove or range hood, and dish towels or pot holders left too close to burners.

What You Can Do:

- When preparing food, don't leave the cooking area unattended.
- If a pan catches on fire, do not carry it. Leave it on the stove, turn off the heat, cover the pan with a lid or use baking soda to extinguish the fire.
- Provide a safe place for dishtowels and pot holders away from the heat of the stove. Don't wear loose clothing while cooking and never reach across a burner.
- If there is an oven fire, turn off the heat and keep the door closed to prevent flames from burning you and your clothing.
- Never pour water on a grease fire and never discharge a fire extinguisher onto a pan fire, as it can spray or shoot burning grease around the kitchen, actually spreading the fire.

HEATING FIRES

Fires that occur in furnaces, heaters and fireplaces are usually a result of poor maintenance or faulty equipment.

What You Can Do:

- Keep space heaters at least three feet away from things that can burn, such as curtains or stacks of newspaper. Always turn off heaters when leaving the room or going to bed.
- Never move furniture too close to a heater.
- Hot water heater closets should never be used as a storage area.



- Fireplaces should always have a protective screen to prevent sparks from flying onto carpet or furniture.
- Never burn newspapers or trash in the fireplace.

FURNITURE FIRES

Fires in couches, chairs and bedding are usually caused by someone carelessly dropping cigarettes or matches between the cushions.

What You Can Do:

- Keep ashtrays in a safe place, not on the arms of sofas and chairs where they can be easily knocked off.
- Smoke outside.

ELECTRICAL FIRES

Cracked and damaged appliance cords are the most common source of electrical fires.

What You Can Do:

- Check all electrical cords periodically to determine their condition and, if damaged, replace immediately.
- Replace any electrical tool or appliance if it causes even small electrical shocks, overheats, shorts out or gives off smoke or sparks.
- Use electrical extension cords wisely and don't overload them.
- Don't run cords under carpets and throw rugs. Keep electrical appliances away from wet floors and

counters; pay special care to electrical appliances in the bathroom and kitchen.

MATCHES & LIGHTERS

Unfortunately, each year, thousands of people die in home fires which were started by children either playing with or using matches.

What You Can Do:

- Store matches and lighters in a secure place away from children.
- Children should tell an adult if they find matches or a lighter.

GENERAL FIRE SAFETY

- Find an exit out of every room in case of emergency.
- Install smoke alarms inside or near every bedroom. Test them regularly.
- Know how to put out a small pan fire by sliding a lid over the flames.
- Make sure every family member knows to "Stop, Drop and Roll" if clothes catch fire.
- Learn how and when to use a fire extinguisher.

Facts & Figures

- In 2004, there were 117,100 reported home structure fires associated with cooking equipment, resulting in 370 deaths, 4,290 injuries and \$453 million in direct property damage.
- Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home cooking fires.
- Three in every 10 reported home fires start in the kitchen – more than any other place in the home.
- Two out of three reported home cooking fires start with the range or stove.

COMMUNITY SHIELD PROTECTION PROGRAM



Offering protection for Creek Citizens against property damage caused by fire, storm, or other natural disasters.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Housing Division is now offering property coverage for Creek Citizens who are renting or own their own homes.

The program offers coverage for both homeowners and renters. Coverages includes home protection for homeowners, personal property, personal liability, and emergency living expenses.

To be eligible for the program applicants must be enrolled Muscogee (Creek) Citizens, reside within the state of Oklahoma and use the dwelling to be covered as their principle place of residence.

The Housing Division and Amerind Risk Management retain the right to inspect the covered property, and require loss prevention efforts on part of the participants and does not assume responsibility for maintenance of the covered property.

The participant will be solely responsible for filing all claims directly to Amerind with claim payments based on replacement cost up to the coverage limits.

For more information about the program contact
Lenora McPerryman
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Housing
(918) 756-8504 or 800-259-5050 Ext. 4117

Contracting/Employment Opportunities

If you live in HUD assisted housing you may qualify as a section 3 resident or a section 3 business and may be eligible for contracting and/or employment opportunities. Please contact Mr. Alan Kelley at 918-752-3249 for more information.

Social Service dept. change hours
OKMULGEE — Effective January 1, 2007 Social Services would like to notify all Citizens that clients will not be seen after 4 p.m. They ask that clients traveling outside of Okmulgee county please plan your trip accordingly so that you will be served efficiently and effectively.

The Social Services office is located at 408 W. Sixth. – Okmulgee, OK phone number is (918)759-2334 or (800) 482-1979, Fax number is (918)759-9988.

Pageant committee seeks former princesses
OKMULGEE — The Muscogee (Creek) Nation Princess Pageant committee extends an invitation to all former MCN Princesses to the 2007 Princess Pageant to be held on June 1 & 2, 2007.

Former Princesses will be recognized during pageant. RSVP by May 4, 2007 by calling KoKo Lowe at (918) 732-7649 or (800) 482-1979 ext. 7649.

The 13th Annual benefit pow wow
GREENVILLE, TX — The 13th annual benefit pow wow is schedule for January 20 at the Greenville High School gym.

The event is sponsored by the G.H.S. Native American Club and the parents organization. Corporate sponsors are: Alliance Bank, The city of Greenville, Explorer Pipeline Company, J.L. Green Insurance & Safeco Insurance Company and Wright's Air Conditioning.

All drums are welcome. The High school is located at 3515 Lion's Lair Road. Free admission.

Oklahoma Historical Society
OKLAHOMA CITY — The Oklahoma Historical Society announces the annual awards for the Outstanding Thesis and the Outstanding Dissertation on Oklahoma History.

A \$150 cash award and an appropriate plaque will be presented to the author of the best thesis and to the author of the best dissertation on Oklahoma history at the Oklahoma Historical Society's Annual Awards Banquet on April 13, 2007. Selection shall be based on the quality or research, interpretation, originality and writing style.

The nominees to be considered shall have completed the thesis or dissertation during the 2006 calendar year. The thesis or dissertation must be the final accepted work of the student as approved by the individual's graduate college. All entries must be postmarked no later than January 12, 2007 and should include a cover letter and one-pate c.v.

Copies submitted as entries become the property of the Research Library of the Oklahoma Historical Society. Authors retain rights of publication. Members of the Oklahoma Historical Society Board of Directors and employees of the Oklahoma Historical Society are ineligible.

Direct entries to: Annual Awards Committee Attn.: Dr. Tim Zwink at Oklahoma Historical Society, 2401 N. Laird Ave., Oklahoma City, OK 73105-7914.

Miss Indian World taking applications
ALBUQUERQUE, NM.— Applications for Miss Indian World Pageant will be accepted until March 20, 2007.

The concept for Miss Indian World originated in 1983 in Albuquerque, NM. Indigenous, young women from all over North America compete for the most prestigious crown.

Miss Indian World is selected by acquiring points in a variety of categories and must be knowledgeable about the tribe(s) and traditions she will be representing.

The application process requires submitting the following items to the Miss Indian World Committee:

- Miss Indian World application which consists of : Official entry application; traditional talent information; Contestant Agreement; Raffle agreement (sent after receipt of application)
- Native or Indigenous women, 18 – 25 years of age
- Single, never been married, no dependants (children)
- Current photograph (preferably a 5x7 color photo)
- Certification of Indian Blood or

Tribal Affiliation

- Proof of age (i.e. Copy of Birth Certificate or Current Driver's License)
- Two letters of recommendation (from someone other than a family member)
- Short essay (2 pages in length, 12 pt font) about yourself -- your educational goals, family, extracurricular activities, etc.

Miss Indian World contestants will compete in the following categories:

- Traditional Talent Presentation representative of you tribe
- Public Speaking and Private Interview with judges
- Dance Competition (expression through powwow music)
- Raffle Ticket Sale – special awards given for number of tickets sold Raffle points are used as tie breakers

Contestants are encouraged to apply as soon as possible in order to prepare for the competition, pageant, and raffle ticket sales. If you have any questions please e-mail: zell@gonmail.com or write to Miss Indian World Pageant c/o Gathering of Nations; 3301 Coors Road NW, #R300, Albuquerque, NM 87120 or call (505) 836-2810 or Fax: (505) 839-0475.

Just in time for Holiday baking
OKMULGEE — MFSI has “Indian” pumpkins for sale at \$5 each. These are sweet and perfect for frying or they can be baked to make your own puree for pies.

They can be purchased at the MFSI office at 1429 N. Alabama Ave (corner of Kiowa and N. Alabama) in Okmulgee. Please call (918) 756-5915 to make sure that someone will be there.

These pumpkins were grown by Myskoke farmer, Gene Golden, Sandra's dad. Thanks to him for the donation of the pumpkins for sale as a MFSI fund raiser.

“National Methamphetamine Awareness Day”
WASHINGTON, D.C. — Coalition Announces \$300,000 for Public Awareness Campaign Targeting Methamphetamine Abuse in Indian Country Native Americans Have Highest Meth Usage Rates; Tribes, Partners Pioneering Creative Solutions (Washington, DC) – Partnering with the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), the Partnership for a Drug-Free America (PFDA), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) is leading a new public awareness campaign aimed at targeting methamphetamine abuse among Native Americans. Combined, the coalition partners have contributed \$300,000 in support of this ground breaking effort for Indian Country, announced at a news conference today at the National Press Club.

“By creating an awareness of this lethal drug and educating people about its devastating effects – especially in Indian Country – we can prevent people from trying it even once,” said Secretary of the Interior Dirk Kempthorne. “The announcement of this campaign, to which the Department of the Interior is contributing \$100,000, is an appropriate and important way to mark National Methamphetamine Awareness Day.”

President Bush has proclaimed today as National Methamphetamine Awareness Day.

Nationally, Native American (American Indians, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians) communities experience the highest rates of methamphetamine abuse among all other ethnicities.

“This new partnership will save lives,” said NCAI Executive Director Jacqueline Johnson.

“Thanks to these generous commitments, we can educate Indian Country on the deadly effects of methamphetamine use and begin turning the tide on its grip on our people. While Indian Country may have been hit the hardest by meth, we have to seize the opportunity to create innovative solutions.”

Before the forging of this coalition, there was no national anti-meth media campaign tailored to Indian Country. The initial phase of the campaign will include Indian Country specific radio and print ads. PDFEA has created a number of anti-meth campaigns and, working

with ONDCP has developed a number of anti-drug campaigns specifically targeting Native Americans.

“The Partnership is thrilled to participate in this much-needed, collaborative effort to address the meth crisis in Indian Country,” said Stephen J. Pasierb, President & CEO of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America. “We have worked with parents and communities across the nation to help reduce demand for meth and prevent its spread—through this new prevention program created specifically to address the needs of Indian Country, we hope to help protect tribal communities from further devastation.”

Carole Lankford, Vice-Chairwoman of the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes knows firsthand the devastation meth can cause in a community. In the last four years the Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribal Social Services has placed more than 35 meth-affected children in the Tribal foster care system. The agency is experiencing tired, worn out caregivers who are now turning children back before the agency can even achieve permanency for these high need children.

“We are working diligently to overcome this problem and address the needs of our community,” said Lankford. “This type of campaign is sorely needed in Indian Country and we highly support systemic changes that increase the funding available to social services agencies and the Indian Health Service in dealing with the long term impacts of caring for drug affected children and families.”

The following details the contributions by coalition partners to the campaign announced:

U.S. Department of the Interior - \$100,000 (\$50,000 from Office of Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs; \$50,000 from Bureau of Indian Affairs)

Office of National Drug Control Policy - \$150,000

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services - \$50,000 (as a part of a larger HHS \$1,000,000 Indian Country Methamphetamine Initiative).

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

OKLAHOMA CITY -- Western Heights Indian Education Program has a job opening for Indian Education Program Assistant.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to tutoring, individualized education planning, lesson planning, program planning, grants reporting and writing. Start date - as soon as job is filled. Salary is approximately \$170/day for 108 days if filled by December 1, 2006 for certified teachers.

Apply at the administration office. Requirements are a bachelor's degree, preferably in education with a teaching certification.

I would like to fill the position as soon as possible, (405) 350-3410 ext. 4118 or my cell 417-7990.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System is currently recruiting for the following openings:
Nutrition Coordinator - WIC

The purpose of the position is to provide nutrition services for Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). This position is responsible for the overall development and management of the nutrition education component of the program to ensure compliance with state goals and federal regulations, and ensure quality nutrition services are provided to the clientele served. The WIC Program is an integral part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Division of Health Administration (Health System).

Health System Administrator - Sapulpa

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENT: The purpose of this position is to manage and direct the Sapulpa Indian Health Clinic located in Sapulpa, Oklahoma. The Sapulpa Clinic provides inpatient, outpatient emergency and general medical and dental services to the eligible Native Americans. The incumbent is responsible for day-to-day management,

Election Board Office

OKMULGEE -- The Election Board Office would like to announce the upcoming elections in 2007 and the qualifications to file for office. Date for the upcoming elections will be announced at a later date.

The 2007 Muscogee (Creek) Nation Election for the following:

- Principal Chief
- Second Chief
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Representative.

Qualifications for Muscogee (Creek) Nation Principal Chief and Second Chief are as follows:

- 1/4 or more Creek
- an enrolled citizen of the tribe
- 35 years of age
- Reside within the Creek Nation boundaries one full calendar year
- Must be a Tribal registered voter six (6) months prior to filing as a Candidate
- No felony within the last ten years, a background check will be conducted
- Employees of the Tribe who file as a candidate must take a leave of absence immediately after filing.

Qualifications for Muscogee (Creek) Nation National Council Representative include:

- 1/4 or more Creek
- 18 years of age
- an enrolled citizen of the tribe
- reside within the district candidate is filing for one calendar year
- Must be a Tribal registered voter six months prior to filing as a candidate
- No felony within the last ten years, a background check will be conducted
- Employees of the tribe who file, as a candidate must take a leave of absence immediately after filing.

Upon filing please provide the following items:

- tribal enrollment card
- Cashiers check or money order
- and verification of residence

Verification of residence must be two or more of the following:

- Income tax return for the preceeding year
- Homestead exemption
- A copy of House Deed or statement from Creek Nation Housing Authority
- If renting,; a statement from the landlord
- Utility bill or bills in candidates name; a 12 month report from PSO can be obtained

DRIVERS LICENSE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AS RESIDENTIAL PROOF.

Filing is three days, Monday through Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Candidates must provide all documentation upon filing

If you have moved or your address has changed due to the 911 address change, please notify the Election Board of your new address. Please notify the Election Board of deceased registered voters.

provide Computer Systems support for the Coweta Indian Health Clinic. Incumbent will be responsible for the installing and upgrading computer systems as designated and providing assistance and guidance in the technical and usage areas of computer operations throughout the Clinic. Day-to-day supervision and administrative support is provided by the Health System Administrator. IT support, guidance and direction will be provided by the information Resources Officer. This position is located at the Coweta Indian Health Clinic in Coweta.

Prevention Counselor “Youth Wellness Camp”

The purpose of this position is to assist with in-school and after-school outdoor experiential education activities and to ensure that information gets disseminated in a timely fashion. Incumbent reports to the Youth Wellness Camp Coordinator.

Public Health Nurse - Coweta

The purpose of the position is to provide multiple aspects of quality nursing and health care through community outreach efforts to prevent disease and to promote wellness within the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MNHS) service area. This position is located at the Coweta Health Center located in Coweta.

Licensed Clinical Social Worker - BHS - Coweta

The purpose of the position is to perform duties of a Counselor and Clinical Social Worker for the Behavioral Health Services Program. Incumbent provides services within the designated service area of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Health System (MNHS). Position is located within the Coweta Indian Health Center in Coweta.

To apply for these positions contact the Human Resource Department at (918) 756-4333 or (800) 782-8291 ext. 279 or you can download an application by logging onto the website at www.muscogeenation-nsn.gov.

I.T. Site Manager - Coweta

The purpose of the position is to

A vision for the College of the Muscogee Nation

by Pete G. Coser, Ed. D.

OKMULGEE — This initiation and implementation of the College of the Muscogee Nation is a vision shared by many Native American communities and individuals that had visions of having their own college that would reflect the values a histories of their tribal communities. For instance, a vision that was depicted many generations ago by Mvskoke Creek elders looking forward to when education would become a part of who we are as Mvskoke Creek people and a vision that would not supplant our individual and community Mvskoke Creek values but add to our skills and training to support our families and communities. In this case, the College of the Muscogee Nation, where there is an immersion of traditional Mvskoke Creek students can realize a dream of attending college and putting into place dreams and goals that they have envisioned for themselves. Additionally, a college that reflects the Mvskoke Creek people in design, curriculum, character and as the College grows and matures offers expanded opportunities for Mvskoke Creek students and communities.

The success of the College of the Muscogee Nation will take a tremendous effort on the part of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, the College Board of Regents, the College administration and the Mvskoke Creek people to blossom into an outstanding effort that will service Native American students and Mvskoke Creek students and communities in particular. The effort will need to include a meeting of tribal, federal, state and private resources for the College of the



Muscogee Nation to grow, stabilize and sustain student and financial growth without jeopardizing sovereignty and autonomy. There will need to be a collaborative effort to establish internships and training with private industry and federal agencies. Additionally, a master plan of structural and building growth to meet the needs of the students and communities is significant for a positive learning environment and continued academic growth.

In order to make an impact on Mvskoke Creek students and communities, the administration, faculty and staff of the College of the Muscogee Nation must come together under the same understanding of Mvskoke values messed with information, technology, satellite communities and professional skills to meet the needs of Mvskoke Creek students and communities. Accordingly, Native American students will have access to a quality education from an accredited institution that meets the specific academic standards of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools Higher Learning Commission, will have access to academic success, and will have access to employment of their choosing. The future looks bright for undergraduate degrees in the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and the College of the Muscogee Nation. There will be quality graduates from the College of the Muscogee Nation supporting Mvskoke Creek communities.

An effort will be made to partner and collaborate with other institutions so that the College of the Muscogee Nation can build on its efforts and bench mark innovative programming that will help build the College infrastructure. Similarly, the College of the Muscogee

Nation will place emphasis on language, culture and traditions, and generate graduates that will help the Mvskoke Creek communities grow and ultimately benefit the Muscogee (Creek) Nation through careers in health, computer science, and human services and to assume positions vital to the success of department and programs that provide direct services to the Mvskoke Creek people in addition to the building of Mvskoke Creek communities. The College of the Muscogee Nation will also build and provide leadership that will permeate the Mvskoke Creek communities.

The College administration, faculty and staff will be encouraged to understand and to meet the needs of Native American students. A strong and caring student support effort is necessary with assessment, guidance and advisement while simultaneously understanding the nature of Mvskoke Creek communities, an understanding that should permeate the College of the Muscogee Nation. Unfortunately, too many of our young people and adults are still misunderstood in public institutions today.

Promotion and celebrating the Native American culture in particular the Mvskoke Creek culture is very significant through student efforts with the support of the College administration, faculty and staff. This effort will allow College staff to aggressively recruit students to the College of the Muscogee Nation with their college experiences to be enjoyable and reflective of Mvskoke Creek values. Thereafter and significantly, there will be an effort to develop a transition method of meeting the needs of Native American students as they transition and matriculate to other institutions.

I believe in the Mvskoke Creek culture and identity, I am a strong supporter for using and understanding Native American traditional knowledge and teaching

simultaneously with western education philosophy. I believe Native American History, language, arts, and traditions are significant to preparing Native Americans through the College of the Muscogee Nation for success in today's work force. In particular, a Mvskoke Creek Cultural Institute could be developed with significant effort to conduct research, curriculum development, instruction and meetings the needs of the Mvskoke Creek communities. Furthermore, efforts will be made to examine land grant status, federal executive orders, private foundation initiatives, the National Science Foundation, and the work of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium and the American Indian College Fund.

The college administration will provide leadership based on Mvskoke Creek values, define and articulate the mission statement, develop meaningful goals, recruit faculty, staff, student talent, build consensus, create the learning environment, and provide the resources necessary to achieve success. The College administration must further be aware of the needs of the Mvskoke Creek communities and work as a significant part of the team that comprises the College of the Muscogee Nation effort. Consequently, I believe the College of the Muscogee Nation will be made up of administrators, faculty and staff who will contribute to an intellectual endeavor that will be of significant proportions. Colleges rise out of the communities they serve and reflect the world perspective of those communities and help pass the knowledge of the communities on to future generations. Therefore, the College of the Muscogee Nation will be an institution that will pass the knowledge of the communities on to future generations based on Mvskoke Creek values.

District Court

continued from A2

MCN v. William P. Lupardus
MCN v. William P. Lupardus
MCN v. Dannie Ray Campbell
MCN v. Bradley Edwards
MCN v. Eugene Barringer
MCN v. Ernesto Roberto
MCN v. Kalynda Colbert
MCN v. Leo Starr Jr.
MCN v. Marcus Blunt
MCN v. Darryl Brown
MCN v. Autumn Rae Couffer
MCN v. Autumn Rae Couffer
MCN v. Anthony Cornwell
MCN v. Anthony Cornwell
MCN v. Rebecca Jean Smith
MCN v. Walter Brown
MCN v. Claudette Lee
MCN v. Claudette Lee
MCN v. Claudette Lee
MCN v. Randy Kimberly Jr.
MCN v. Randy Kimberly Jr.

Driving on Tribal Property without Tribal Property
Driving on Tribal Property No Insurance Verification
No Insurance
Turning without Regard to Safety
Disorderly Conduct
Expired Tag
Failure to Carry Insurance
Expired Drivers License
No Insurance
DUS
No Drivers License
No Insurance
Expired Tag
No Insurance
Duties in Event of Accident
Disorderly Conduct
No Dirvers License
No Insurance
Disorderly Conduct
Expired Tag
No Insurance

In re the marriage of,

F. W. Perkins,

Petitioner,

vs.

W.L. Perkins

Respondent

)
)
)
)
) Case No. DV 2006-31
)
) Before the Honorable Patrick E.
) Moore, Judge of the District Court
)
)
)

SERVICE OF SUMMONS
BY PUBLICATION NOTICE

Muscogee (Creek) Nation To: Wynema Perkins

TAKE NOTICE that you have been sued for divorce in the District Court of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Okmulgee District, Case No. DV 2006-31, styled In re the Marriage of F.W. Perkins, Petitioner and W.L. Perkins Respondent. The action alleges that the petitioner is entitled to a Decree of Dissolution of Marriage from you based on the grounds of incompatibility.

You are notified that you must answer the Petition or appear for a hearing on the 9 a.m. on 23rd day of January, 2007 or the allegations contained in the Petition will be taken as true and judgment will be entered against you and in favor of petitioner as prayed for in his Petition.

Given under my hand and seal this 21st day of November, 2006.

Nancy Jukich, Court Clerk
Muscogee (Creek) Nation District Court,
Okmulgee District

By: Marva Proctor
(Deputy)

Brenda S. Christie, MCN#443
The University of Tulsa Boesche Legal Clinic
Muscogee (Creek) Nation Legal Program
407 S. Florence Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74104
(918) 631-5799
(918) 631-5798 facsimile
Attorneys for the Petitioner
and
Ryan D. Petersen, MCN#457
Student Clinician

Letters

continued from A2

I dance, sing, make art for elders, sweat every week and completely changed my life.

I realized I don't need drugs and alcohol to live, I never did. I am now very comfortable with being sober and sound, and it's a blessing. I got my diploma and am going to go to college. When I get released, my tribe is going to put me through diving school to become a professional diver. I will also be dedicating my life to helping my Native brothers, sisters and youngsters stay sober and on the right path through culture.

I would also like to let the youngsters know prison is not the place to be. It's one the stupidest things a person can do with there life. But why go through all the time, effort, pain and stress to find out something I am telling your right now. There are so many paths to take, why take one where cops tell you what to do all day long? They dictate what I eat, when I eat it, what I do and when I do it. If you disagree with anything they take you to the hole. What kind of pathetic life is that?

Speaker

continued from A3

NCA 06-256, A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation repealing NCA 04-126 (A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation establishing a comprehensive clothing assistance program for over income families), amending MCNCA Title 35, Chapter 6 to eliminate income specific guidelines and authorizing a supplemental appropriation to the comprehensive school clothing assistance program to fund remaining applicants for the 2006-07 school year. The \$90,000.00 supplemental appropriation will allow the remaining applicants to be served for the current school year.

NCA 06-257 A law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation amending NCA 06-205 (A Law of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation approving the Comprehensive

Please youngsters, I am only 23, take it from one of your own, stay out of prison. Get right and stay right.

My natives, we will save our cultures. We will save out peoples. We will overcome all obstacles. We will come out on top. Not because I believe it but because you believe it. I will dedicate the rest of my life to help make sure of it. In my heart, in my mind, with everything I have, I know it is true.

We will pray and fast and suffer for everyone of you and your family hoops. If you can give me some knowledge or medicines and beads or if you need someone to help you through some problems, don't hesitate to write. I will always be here for my people, and that is you. I only wish to see everyone succeed and be happy. Take care. We are all related.

Respectfully
Gordon Night #856532
FCC PO Box 6900
Florence, AZ 85232

Annual Budget with exclusions for Fiscal Year 2007 and providing for appropriations).

In closing, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Tulsa Casino celebrated its twenty-second anniversary with a Native Fall Music Fest Celebration on November 17 and 18. The event was a tremendous success and those who were in attendance are already looking forward to next year. I was honored to serve as their emcee and extended appreciation to the Gaming Operations Authority Board, Casino Manager and staff for their support and hard work to make the Music Fest a success.

Unitl next time make it a great month!
Mvto.

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~Paid Advertisement by Muscogee (Creek) Citizen Cynthia J. Fox~

FEATURES

ELDERLY - B2

Senior Services Update



SPOTLIGHT B4

Christmas that Ryal school will never forget



SPORTS - B8

Dewar Pee-Wee football a success



Section B, Page 1

MUSCOGEE NATION NEWS

December 2006

Native American History Series: Indian Territory Transportation

by Judge Patrick E. Moore

Years before the War between the States the Muscogee had developed a good reliable transportation system in The Indian Territory using the Arkansas and Red Rivers with their many tributaries to move goods to the Gulf of Mexico and upstream into the Ohio River Valley. They used steamboats, called fire canoes by the Osage, barges and flat bottom boats to move cotton, grain, lumber, furs and lead to New Orleans and points in the northeast returning with supplies needed on the frontier.

All towns in The Indian Territory were connected by roads, there was a postal system, stage coach service and many ox drawn freight wagons.

After the Civil War ended the rivers again became channels of commerce and by 1870 there was one steamboat company operating with a fleet of twenty steamboats, each with at least three tons of capacity, cruising from Gibson Landing at Fort Smith to Memphis, Tennessee then on to Saint Louis, Missouri, continuing to Cincinnati, Ohio. These steamboats made stops in Little Rock, Arkansas before cruising down river to New Orleans, Louisiana.

The Arkansas Steamboat Line had numerous landing sites along the Arkansas River and the companies Argos, Fort Smith and Tallequah steamers becoming well known to all who lived along the river. According to records kept by the federal government at Fort Gibson in excess of five million dollars in trade



Moore

goods moved westward into The Indian Territory each year.

Water levels of all rivers in eastern Indian Territory fluctuated with the seasons allowing for steamboat travel only on a part time basis.

The railroad could, however, be counted on year round and by early 1861 many railroad companies had reached the Mississippi River. After the Civil War the race was on to see which railroad would be the first to enter into and cross Indian Territory. This wealthy and corrupt railroad industry had a very powerful lobby in Washington D.C. and did not hesitate to use their considerable political influence to gain land concessions along with right of way clauses in all of the new after Civil War treaties between the United States and the governments of The Five Civilized Tribes.

The Five Civilized Tribes were not in favor of railroads entering their territory due to the large land grants that were often given the railroad. The Five Civilized Tribes finally agreed to allow railroad easements two hundred feet wide but the railroads wanted more with the MK&T declaring it was entitled to an additional 3 million acres as a tribute for building their north south railroad across Indian Territory, rail traffic on that track was alone bringing in millions of dollars each year to the corporation.

A heavily lobbied Congress got involved and passed acts authorizing the

railroad companies to cross Indian Territory, awarded them tribal land and by 1871 MK&T was in Muskogee. Track was being laid at the rate of 1.5 miles each day and the railroad finally crossed into Texas in early 1872. Many other railroads large and small eventually crossed Indian Territory and commerce moved year round throughout the Territory. Finally four railroads controlled most of the track in Indian Territory, the Frisco, Sante Fe, Rock Island and MK&T.

Arriving with the railroad was communication in the form of the telegraph. Telegraph poles followed beside train tracks everywhere and by 1871 eastern Indian Territory had almost instantaneous communication with eastern cities. The first telephone was brought on line in the Indian Territory during 1884.

Railroad traffic also brought the undesirable into Indian Territory and a criminal element soon was operating throughout the Territory. Again the United States failed or just plain refused to abide by the new treaties, allowing unlimited immigration into a land that was promised to be free from such an invasion. The resulting influx of United States citizens and others seeking free land resulted in such a significant imbalance between the true owners of The Indian Territory (The Five Civilized Tribes) and outsiders that allotment of Indian land became a foregone conclusion. The winners were Freesoilers, big railroad, local henchmen and Washington D.C. politicians.

The travesty is a people who should have been the wealthiest are the poorest and to days general citizenry requires reminders on a daily basis of their obligation to the decedents of the original landowners.

Coming and Going in Indian Country

by Joy Harjo

ALBUQUERQUE — Hensci, We've finally landed in winter after a long summer and fall. Here on the Rio Grande flyway geese and cranes have been passing over. Only thing is they aren't always headed in the right direction. I've watched several layered vees of birds head south, then turn back north. Others fly east or west in a confused manner. Strange. I never saw this growing up in Oklahoma. In the fall, birds flew south. In the spring; they returned. Since the hard freeze of the last few weeks they are definitely and quickly flying south. No question. At least the Sun still comes up from the East and sees us through until nightfall, and returns again. A mvto, or thank you for the Sun.

We just survived Thanksgiving. Most people don't know that it's a holiday based on a fabricated story of a sit down dinner with Pilgrims (a mispronunciation of the word "pillager") and Indians. The Pilgrims weren't too friendly, were rather grim, not the sort to hang out and eat with Indians. The holiday was an invention fostered by the writer of the poem "Mary Had a Little Lamb", Sarah Josepha Hale. Maybe the poem should have been, "Mary Had a Little Turkey". Did her family own a turkey farm? Of course, most of us enjoy any kind of excuse for a day off, for eating lots of good food with family and friends, and for some (not me) an afternoon of football games. And it's always good to take time to express gratitude, and even better to make it a habit every morning before getting up, or before sleep. I take issue with the compromised premise, and with all of those people dressing up as fake Indians. For most of the world, turkey feathers in the hair and buckskin, equals Indian.

Once years back in a class we studied images of Indians. One of the students took sheets of paper and markers to a preschool class in Boulder. She asked the children to draw an Indian. They all drew one of two images: a warrior on horseback brandishing bloody tomahawks, or delicate princesses, most of them on horseback. They weren't human beings, rather symbols, and the children had already internalized them.

When my daughter was three, just before she went into Head Start, we went to sign her up at a preschool in Iowa City, (where I was going to graduate school). The children surrounded us and danced around doing that Hollywood war whoop, you know the one. Their teacher was embarrassed. I was amazed that children that young had already taken in that false image that had nothing to do with being Indian, or Mvskoke, or Acoma, my daughter's other tribal affiliation.

We're still mostly portrayed in those flat images in art, literature, movies, and not just by non-Indians or three-year-olds. The worst culprits are often our own people. Of course, we do have warriors on horseback, and I saw a little tomahawk brandishing in my early days, and most of our princesses aren't so delicate. They like to eat.

A few years ago I carried a fussy grandson, accompanied by his older sister for a stroll around the Santa Fe plaza, while their parents (and the rest of the diners) finished dinner in peace. Desiray, who is Mvskoke, Acoma, Navajo and most decidedly "Indian looking" paused in front of a Plains headdress displayed in an Indian jewelry shop for tourists. "Look Nana", she said. "Indians."

Identity is a complex question. How do we see and define ourselves and how do others define us? What do governments have to say about it and what does the wisdom beyond the foolishness of small-mindedness have to say about it? I understand there are many in the tribe who believe

tribal membership should be made up of only full-bloods. Yet many of these same people sing hymns and espouse a religion that isn't Mvskoke in origin. There's a contradiction here. I have no issue with people talking

with or worshipping

God in whatever manner or form. Diversity in form describes the natural world. And I'm convinced we all carry a part of the vision. No one person or culture carries the whole story.

What I take issue with is the rigidity and hurtfulness of an exclusionary vision. Such a plan to limit tribal membership, is not only

racist, it's genocidal. It's what the makers of the Dawes Act had in mind in the first place, like a sustained release genocide pill. And many have bought into it. Self-righteousness stinks, no matter how it's dressed.

Beyond this are some real issues and concerns about what it means to be a real Mvskoke person, about our responsibilities, and about having some say in the shape of the future of our nation. Who is taking care of the spiritual, mythical and familial center? Who is carrying forth the stories, the songs and making new ones to fit the needs of the time? Many of those who know are dying off.

Our experiences have been different and race figures greatly into how one moves about the present world. Consider that we didn't define ourselves by race before the coming of the Europeans. We must remember where we came from as a nation, and have a shining idea of our direction. A fearful approach doesn't work, in governments, societies or our individual lives. We bring about what we fear as surely as we bring about what we love. Both carry the same charge. Let's try some common sense and compassion. We need to be open to hearing each other.

I've talked to many of our tribal members in Oklahoma and elsewhere in the country who have expressed concern that their children and grandchildren are being denied a place in the family, our Mvskoke Nation. Is this who we want to be, a people who throw their children away? If we look with the mind of the vastness and complexity of the viewpoint of the stars, then we will see and know wisely.

As I write this I am on a late flight to Albuquerque. We were delayed from Tulsa Mallas Fort Worth. Alfred Berryhill, our second chief was also on the same delayed flights so we had plenty of opportunity to visit. I was impressed by his cultural knowledge and his love of our Mvskoke language. Ask him sometime about how to get from "aerodynamics" to "arrow dynamics". Mostly we talked the need for a refreshing vision for the people. We agreed we need to see ourselves as who we are, not in that false mirror of misrepresentation that has been forced on us. When the Europeans first arrived they were amazed by the way we lived, by our democracy, our lack of a need for prisons, for our social systems, our finely crafted homes. In a relatively short time we have forgotten our true legacy as Mvskoke people. It's still here, within us.

Finally, a few closing words from poet Louis Littlecoon Oliver who always had a wise word or two, and a sense of humor. He was a full-blood, born of Koweta Town, Raccoon Clan. In his book, The Horned Snake, he says: "I asked the oldest of my old ones what his opinions were of the white man's supertechnology: his flight to the moon, his atomic weapons, his present status in the Middle East. He stared into the fire for a moment, then looked up at me with a faint smile and said: 'We look upon the white man's world of wonders as trivia—and short-lived.' "

Cultural Activities in December

Christmas Dinner and Stompdance

TULSA — The First Annual Indian Health Care Resource Center Circles of Care and Indian Youth Program Christmas Dinner and Stompdance will be held Tuesday, December 19, 2006 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at the Salvation Army West Maybee Boys and Girls Club located at 2143 S. Olympia.

Everyone is invited to come enjoy food, games, door prizes and dancing. Pictures will be taken with Santa and small gifts will be given out to children.



Indian Health Care Resource Center of Tulsa, Inc., (IHCRC), is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, comprehensive health care facility, governed by a local volunteer Board of Trustees. IHCRC provides medical, health education, dental, optometry, behavioral health, chemical dependency, HIV/AIDS prevention and pharmacy services directly to the Tulsa Indian community. Quality, health care is provided on a sliding scale fee, ability to pay, basis. Members of any federally recognized tribe

and their children under the age of 18 are eligible to receive care. No one is refused services due to inability to pay.

Indian Health Care promotes quality health care by providing culturally sensitive access to comprehensive medical care. Comprehensive health care includes acute and preventive care, chronic disease management, health education, outreach and therapeutic services.

Indian Health Care Resource Center is located at 550 S. Peoria Avenue. For more information about the center visit their website at www.ihcrc.org or call (918) 588-1900.

Trail of Tears Commemorative Ride® Tee Shirt Design Contest

The Trail of Tears Commemorative Motorcycle Ride® is a ride to raise public awareness of the forced removal of the first people of the region now known as the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. In the 1830's over 17,000 men, women and children of the Cherokee, Chickasaw, Choctaw, Creek and Seminole nations were forcibly removed from their homes and marched to the Oklahoma territory.

This event has grown from a hand full of dedicated motorcycle riders to an event described by Easyrider magazine as "The largest motorcycle ride in the country if not the largest in the world." The event was awarded Event of the Year in 2002 by The Alabama Tourism Commission.

If you have a creative mind you can help this year by designing the official event Tee Shirt. The winner will receive \$250, two VIP Ride passes, two Tee-shirts, and recognition of your contribution at the POW-WOW.

All entries must be of original creation and not previously copyrighted. Entries may not contain clip art in whole or in part of other imagery designed by others (copyrighted or copyright free). All entries must meet technical requirements.

Deadline for entries is by 3 p.m. CST on January 6, 2007. The winner will be notified by March 1, 2007.

A panel of judges will preview the entries for merit and suitability as a visual image, originality, and how well the design

reflects the spirit of the event. The final decision will be made by the Board of Directors of the Alabama Tennessee Trail of Tears Corridor Association Inc.

The Alabama Tennessee Trail of Tears Corridor Association Inc. Board of Directors reserves the right to photograph and exhibit all entries. The winning artist will release all rights to the Alabama Tennessee Trail of Tears Corridor Association Inc. at which time the winning entry will become the property of Alabama Tennessee Trail of Tears Corridor Association Inc.

The Alabama Tennessee Trail of Tears Corridor Association Inc. reserves the right to reproduce any works accepted in the competition for publicity purposes.

The finished art should be in a vertical format up to 18" x 24" (maximum image area) in either a full bleed or not up to eight (8) standard printing (PMS) colors.

The following must be included in the design: event name, 14th Annual Trail of Tears Commemorative Motorcycle Ride®, the phrase, Riding to Remember; and the names of the five Nations, Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek, and Seminole.

The artist is to submit a matted, color comprehensive design preferably on illustration board 100 % of size no larger than 18" x 24". The design may be submitted in the following media,

Opaque water based colors, inks, markers, original computer generated imagery and/or a combination of all four. PMS color swatches may accompany artwork to represent the actual color but is not required.

These are suggestions, however, all entries, in all formats will be accepted. The winning artist will assist in preparation of camera-ready mechanicals.

Each entry must have an identification label placed in the upper left corner of the back with the name, return address, and phone number of the artist and a signed artist's agreement. (see identification card and artist's agreement form below. Include with your submission a check made out to ATTOTCAI in the amount of \$7.50 for return postage if you would like your entry mailed back to you at the conclusion of the contest.

Mail entries to: Florence/Lauderdale Tourism, c/o Alison Standfield, One Hightower Place, Florence, AL, 35630; Bill Cason, 275 Cason Rd, Whitwell, TN, 37397; or Perry White, 3627 Olive Hill Rd., Franklin, NC 28734.

Every precaution will be taken to return entries but the Alabama Tennessee Trail of Tears Corridor Association assumes no responsibility for loss or damage.

Finally, each entry must include an identification card that includes the entrant's name, address, city, state, and telephone number, along with the entrant's signature, date, and the following language: "I certify that my design is an original creation. It contains no clip art in whole or in part or other imagery designed by Others (copyrighted or copyright free). I agree that if my design is chosen and I am in violation of this agreement I forfeit all prize money and future eligibility."

Senior Services Report: Carlsbad Caverns National Park

Published as submitted on Thursday, November 2, 2006

A total of eighteen Creek elders, including the drivers, departed Okmulgee at eight in the morning, bound for Carlsbad Caverns National Park, New Mexico. Carlsbad is located in the south-eastern part of the state of New Mexico.

We traveled west on Highway 40 to Amarillo, Texas then headed south on Highway 27 to Lubbock and La Mesa. Not much to see in that part of the country as far as scenery. Just miles and miles of flat land and lots of cotton fields. We then turned west on Highway 180 which took us across the New Mexico line and into Carlsbad.

The entrance to the park itself is located south of Carlsbad approximately seventeen miles in White's city. Not a whole lot there, just the main motel, some tourist shops, and one restaurant. We found out on Friday evening that being the only game in town their food prices were pretty extravagant.

We arrived in White's City pretty late, around 9:30 P.M. We didn't bother with dinner, just got our rooms and retired for the evening. Friday morning we ate a complementary breakfast, then stocked up on film and cameras and headed into the Guadalupe mountains.

After paying the entrance fees of course we taken two trips on elevators

straight down seven hundred and fifty six feet. This is no place to be if someone is somewhat claustrophobic. When the elevator finally stopped after three minutes, we were let out into an area with rock and stone walls all around.

There are bathrooms made from openings in the stone, a concession stand with all the goodies and plenty of seating for resting.

The first thing to do is get your nerve up and have comfortable walking shoes. You then set out on a walking trail complete with hand rails on either side. That in itself must have been some undertaking to construct, since the trail travels up and down and curving right and left and is paved with non-slip material. There is lighting strategically placed to highlight some areas as you walk through.

You think you have seen the main parts and areas but the caverns and openings lead into others. There are things to see and marvel at ahead, behind, and all

around. Some areas are some hundred yards in length and width, with ceilings hundreds of feet high with drop-offs on either side. One particular formation we were told about is constantly changing.

But to notice any change one would have to come back to see it in three hundred years.

There are shortcuts to the trail returning to the meeting place here and there. For various reasons some of our party elected to return early. Some of us diehards went for the entire walk, some one mile and six tenths. Seemed the trial

would never end. But we finally made it with a few rest stops along the way.

To sum up the Caverns in words, I cannot do it, I have no words to describe them. Upon seeing this wonder to for the first time, I could only think that surely Carlsbad was created by someone or something far grater than man.

We all eventually met up again at the elevators. Time seemed to stand still there. We spent some three to four hours down inside. We rode the elevators for another three minutes to the surface. We gathered in the souvenir and break room. After spending our money on keepsakes and soft drinks, we headed back to our rooms.

We rested for a couple of hours then went back to the main opening to the caverns. We wanted to observe the flight of the bats as they came out for the night's hunting and feeding. Most of the bats, about a month earlier, had headed south to Mexico for the winter. However

we did get to see many as they made their way out. There was always the fear though that something might drop on your head.

We then went back into "town" to the only restaurant available. As we did not have to pay for breakfast, we felt that paying higher than usual prices for dinner was justified. High prices or not we surely enjoyed dinner after the days activities. We then retired for the night.

Saturday morning saw us on our way east toward the Texas state line. We wanted to have breakfast en route as we started traveling at seven that morning. Seems in that part of the country the people must always eat at home. We didn't find a place for about three hours. But we did find something to eat to tide us over. We made it to Wichita Falls where we had dinner, then on into Oklahoma through Lawton and finally into Oklahoma City. We arrived in Creek nation and Okmulgee at 1 p.m. tired from the long ride. As always we were glade to be home. An enjoyable time was had by all. If someone loves and appreciates the beauty and wonders of nature, Carlsbad is one place worth the effort of getting to seeing.

Until next time, Myto and sincerely, Jackson Barnett.



PRESCRIPTION FOR SUCCESS: MEDICARE PART D

EODD AREA AGENCY ON AGING OFFERS FREE MEDICARE PART D ASSISTANCE; ANNUAL ELECTION PERIOD RUNS THROUGH DECEMBER 31

TULSA — The Medicare Part D Annual Period for 2007 coverage began November 15 and continues through December 31. The Annual Election Period is an opportunity for Medicare beneficiaries who have previously not enrolled to sign up for prescription drug benefits in 2007. It is also a chance for those who had coverage in 2006 to change their prescription drug plan.

The Eastern Oklahoma Development District (EODD) Area Agency on Aging is offering free prescription assistance clinics to help Medicare beneficiaries compare plans and find the one that best fits their individual prescription needs. The clinics are being held between November 30 and December 21 in Eufaula, Checotah, Stillwell, Muskogee, Coweta, Wagoner, Tahlequah, Hulbert, Sallisaw, Henryetta, and Okmulgee. Beneficiaries should call EODD Area Agency on Aging at (918) 682-7891 or toll free at 1 (800) 211-2116 to schedule an appointment for the clinic in their area.

Medicare Part D, which made

prescription drug coverage available through Medicare for the first time, began in January, 2006. Although it has been a highly debated political issue, on the practical level it has provided tremendous relief for thousands of Oklahoma's Medicare beneficiaries, both seniors and adults with disabilities.

For many, especially those Medicare beneficiaries with low incomes or extremely high medication costs, the impact on their lives has been profound. Not only is it common for these beneficiaries to save thousands of dollars each year, but many are no longer forced to decide between buying groceries, paying utilities bills, or taking medications as prescribed. Fewer seniors and disabled adults are putting their health at risk by skipping or splitting doses in order to cut their costs.

For many people, however, the program is still confusing, and the choices are still overwhelming – there are now 57 stand-alone Prescription Drug Plans for Oklahoma's beneficiaries to consider.

That's why the EODD Area Agency on Aging is offering Enrollment Assistance Clinics for Medicare beneficiaries who do not have computer access or are not comfortable using the Internet, where they will receive one-on-one assistance comparing prescription drug plans and enrolling in the plan of their choice. They will also be screened to determine if they might qualify for Extra Help, the Limited Income Subsidy, that virtually eliminates all prescription drug costs for those who qualify.

To be eligible for the Extra Help, individual beneficiaries must have a monthly income of no more than \$1,225, and have less than \$11,500 in assets (excluding their home and car). For married couples, their income must not be more than \$1,650 per month, with resources limited to \$230,000.

Medicare beneficiaries and their families can rest assured that the information and enrollment assistance they receive is clear, impartial, and does not promote any specific provider or prescription Drug Plan.

For questions or to find out about an Enrollment Assistance Clinic for Medicare beneficiaries in Adair, Cherokee, McIntosh, Muskogee, Okmulgee, Sequoyah, and Wagoner counties, call EODD Area Agency on Aging at (918) 682-7891 or toll-free at 1(800) 211-2116.

Beneficiaries can also get help comparing, selecting, and enrolling in Part D plans by calling Medicare at 1(800) 633-4227 or consulting the Drug Plan Finder on Medicare's web site at www.medicare.gov.

EODD Area Agency on Aging is a member of the Medicare Prescription Assistance Coalition led by LIFE Senior Services of Tulsa. LIFE Senior Services and its coalition partners bring Medicare part D information, education, and enrollment assistance to Medicare beneficiaries in seventeen northeastern Oklahoma counties.

For help or information on other Medicare Part D Enrollment Assistance Clinics scheduled in northeastern Oklahoma, contact LIFE Senior Services at (918) 644-9000 or toll-free at 1 (866) 664-9009.



918-664-9000
www.seniorline.org

Central (mailing address)
5950 East 31st Street
Tulsa, OK 74135-5114
FAX (918) 664-9922

North
902 East Pine Street
Tulsa, OK 74106-5929
FAX (918) 585-9266

Broken Arrow
3106 South Juniper Avenue
Broken Arrow, OK 74012-7712
FAX (918) 445-1151

Adult Day Services

Caregiver Support Services

Case Management Services

Senior Centers

Senior Line Information Services

Vintage Housing

The Vintage Newsmagazine



Creek Pastor remembered as leader who kept the peace



Descendants of Samuel Checote, a Methodist circuit-riding preacher and principal chief of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation, recently met at his gravesite in Okmulgee. They are great-granddaughter Mary Ann Kane (from left); Odette Freeman, a great-great-granddaughter; and Freeman's daughter, Lilly, eight.

by Bill Sherman/Tulsa World

OKMULGEE — Samuel Checote was 10 years old in 1829 when his Muscogee (Creek) parents began the long trek from their ancestral homeland in Alabama to what is now Oklahoma, a trek later named the “Trail of Tears.”

He grew up to be a leader among his tribesmen: a Confederate officer in the Civil War , principal chief of the Creeks, and a peacemaker in the social disorder that followed the war.

But his greatest love was promoting the Christian faith among the mix of peoples who were settling early Indian Territory.

Checote was a Methodist circuit rider, a minister who traveled on horse back to preach at various locations.

He and other ministers — Indian and white — worked to bring education, Christianity, Western civiliza-

tion and Judeo-Christian values to a people whose own cultural foundation was disrupted by the forced migration from their homeland.

Checote was a young boy when his interest in Christianity was sparked as he watched missionaries baptizing converts in a river. He said he was strongly moved to join them, but because of his age, he was ignored.

Years later, he was baptized into the Christian faith and studied under “Uncle” John Harrell, a leading Methodist minister of that time Preaching the Gospel became the passion of his life.

Checote often faced hostility from tribal leaders who viewed Christianity as the white man’s religion.

The Lower Creek Council in 1844 prohibited Indians from preaching the Christian religion. Violators

received 50 lashes on the bare back.

Checote was whipped twice for preaching, said his great-granddaughter, Mary Ann Kane, now living in Okmulgee.

He and others left the area and personally appealed to the Creek chief. Eventually, the law was changed.

In 1844, at the first meeting of the Indian Mission Conference, Checote proposed translating the Bible into the Creek language. Today’s Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference of the United Methodist Church, with 89 Indian churches, is an outgrowth of the Indian Mission Conference. During the Civil War, Checote commanded a Creek regiment for the Confederacy, and he participated in the last battle that took place in Indian Territory. He left the military service with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

He was elected principal chief of the Creeks after the war, and continued to preach for the 12 years he served as chief.

He founded churches and was elected a delegate to a Methodist conference in London, but did not attend because of illness.

In the social disruption that followed the war, freed slaves, former slave holders and Indians who had sided with the North and the South formed a volatile mix in Indian Territory. Checote was credited with doing much to restore peace and civil order.

According to O.A... Lambert, writing in the “Chronicles of Oklahoma,” the Creek people reached “their highest standard in moral and religious living” under Checote’s leadership. He broke the habit of plurality of wives, and “by precept and example

MISSIONARIES WERE MANY

Samuel Checote was one of many ministers who worked in Indian Territory to Christianize Indians after the “Trail of Tears.”

Some Early missionaries had worked with the tribes in the South and followed them into Indian Territory.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions sent more than 300 missionaries into Indian Territory over a 44-year period ending in 1860, most of them Congregational or Presbyterian.

They Established schools and places of worship. One of the largest was Park Hill, near Tahlequah, established in 1835, with schools, missionary homes, a boarding hall, a grist mill, shops, stables, barns for its farming operation, and a printing office and book bindery.

Methodist and Baptist missionaries were more mobile. During the early years, Methodist missionaries tended to be circuit riders, sometimes traveling to 20 or more preaching sites by horseback. Methodists also held camp meetings, which appealed to Indians who enjoyed assembling with their own people.

University of Oklahoma archivist Gaston Litton wrote in his “History of Oklahoma” that the 30-year period between the Trail of Tears and the Civil War was the most intense period of missionary work in Indian Territory.

He described missionaries as heroic, patient, self-sacrificing men of profound influence who “greatly aided the Indians in adapting themselves to the ways of civilization.”

taught his people the importance of peace and industry.”

Ulysses S. Grant once said of him: “He is the greatest Indian I have ever met,” Lambert recorded.

Checote’s people called him their “Great Chief,” and described him as “gentle as a child, as courageous as a lion.”

The Rev. David Wilson, present-day superintendent of the Oklahoma Indian Missionary Conference, said: “He is very revered today as one of the early Creek pastors who really made a way for Christianity among the Creek people.”

Checote died in 1884 and was buried at Okmulgee. The modern town of Checotah takes its name from him.

Bill Sherman (918) 581-8398
bill.sherman@tulsaworld.com

Local church assists families in need

by Ruth Bible

MNN Staff Writer

SAPULPA — The New Joy Indian Baptist Church in Sapulpa recently hosted a clothing giveaway in December with great success. Several members of the community and surrounding area benefited from the generosity of the church’s venture. The church’s mission was to help families in need of several articles of clothing such as sweaters, pants, tops, shoes and winter coats in all sizes.

New Joy Indian Baptist Church has been at their present location since 2002, Pastor Jimmy Alexander welcomes everyone the come worship with them at 1103 S. Main in Sapulpa. Sunday schools starts at 10 a.m. and worship at 11 a.m., and Wednesday Worship services are at 7 p.m. For more information you can contact Pastor Jimmy Alexander at (918)322-5407 or Delbert Dunn at (918) 734-3802.

Keeping the Creek hymns alive

TWIN HILLS — There are approximately one-hundred-plus churches scattered within the boundaries of Creek Nation. Some still hold entire services in our language, something that is fading fast. Concharty United Methodist Church is doing their part to teach our next generation so that generations to come, will not just hear about it in our history, but to share it first hand with their own.

They have put together a Creek Hymn Class that is growing rapidly with about 25 members that attend and more visitors coming every week.

People of all ages are able to attend these classes, most of the elders that attend come just to sit and hear the hymns and to help teach the younger ones, and young children whose parents want them to grow up knowing how to sing the Creek Hymns fluently.

Levi On-The-Hill hits to the basic part of the Creek Hymns, by teaching our alphabet so that students can read the songs as well as sing them, he feels that

this is of utmost importance. Once Levi taught a few words, Newman Frank lead the group into a song called “Mekusape



Concharty Methodist Church’s Creek Hymn Class

Fullana” and the group joined in, while some listened intently before joining.

They also sang “Espoketis Omas Kerreskes” then introduced the next

song “Vnrphoyye” with a few changes to suit. On-the-Hill expressed his sentiments about how important it is to keep

“Eknvntleraten,” he then lead the group into the song.

These songs are so heartfelt, one can be away from their home church living in a metropolitan city hundreds of miles away from “Creek Nation” but to just hear one start out can overwhelm you with emotion. Some still travel “home” for fourth Sundays or church meetings from these cities, maybe some just for holidays. But when they hear any of these songs they know they are home. The evening ended with “Estvmnestomen Fullatskis” followed with a prayer before the evening dismissal.

Concharty’s ultimate goal is to keep the creek hymns alive, and they plan to do so by making their very own CD. The CD will be named Po-ho-sat-ce, meaning “Remember don’t forget.”

This CD will feature 10 of well known Creek Hymns sung by the entire class and will be coming out in February 2007.

To purchase the CD call Mark Pendergrass at (918) 527-5155.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Tekopuchee Methodist

HOLDENVILLE — Tekopuchee Methodist Church will have their Christmas Program December 16 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.

Tekopuchee is located 6 miles N. of Holdenville on Hwy. 48, 1 1/2 miles East & 1/2 mile North.

New Beginnings Baptist

HENRYETTA — New Beginnings Baptist Church has scheduled a Christmas Program on December 20, to be held at the Civic Center in Henryetta at 6 p.m. Refreshments will be available. The Civic Center is located at 115 S. 4th street.

New Beginnings will also be singing Christmas carols on December 21, to all elders living at the Elderly Housing located in Okmulgee, if weather permits.

Concharty United Methodist

TWIN HILLS — Concharty United Methodist Church will have their Christmas Dinner December 24, following service at 11 a.m. With Christmas program to follow.

Oakhurst Fellowship

OAKHURST — Oakhurst Fellowship church will be holding their Christmas dinner and program on December 24.

The activities will begin at 5 p.m. all are welcome.

Creek Chapel Methodist

OKEMAH — Creek Chapel will be holding a New Year’s Eve all night services.

Services will begin at 7:30 p.m. with breakfast to be served at 6 a.m.

The church is located four miles south on Hwy 27.

Muscogee, Seminole and Wichita Association 4th Sunday Dates

Alabama Cedar Spring Cold Spring Forest Creek Mission Hutchachuppa Little Coweta Little Quarsarty Many Springs Okmulgee Prairie Spring Spring Weogufkee West Eufaula Yardeka Quarsada Alabama	Artusse Bemo Beaver Bird Creek Deep Fork Hillabee Hickory Ground #2 Hillabee Mekusukey Middle Creek #2 Montesoma Okfuskee Pigeon Sand Creek Eufaula Silver Spring Tulmochussee Wetumka	Baptist S.S. Mission Butler Creek Cedar Creek Cedar Creek Eufaula Grave Creek Greenleaf Nuyaka New Joy Ross Mission Sand Creek Sand Spring Thewarthle Tookparfka Tuskegee Seminole Arbeka Wekiwa Wewoka	Arbeka Big Arbor Cedar River Hickory Ground #1 High Spring (Okemah) High Spring (Konawa) Little Cussetah Middle Creek #1 New Arbor Randall Rock Spring Salt Creek Snake Creek #1 Snake Creek #2 Seminole Baptist Vian Creek Trenton
October 1 October 29 November 26 December 24	October 8 November 5 December 3 December 31	October 15 November 12 December 10 January 7, 2007	October 22 November 19 December 17 January 14, 2007

HOLIDAY SPOTLIGHT

A Christmas they will never forget

"It may be more of a joy for us, because we see that these are good kids and they are thinking of others because they want to buy for so many of their families. Thats when you see the real spirit of Christmas come alive and the good feelings of love are all around."

By GERALD WOFFORD
MNN Staff Writer

TULSA — The Christmas season can bring out the best in everyone and on a special day in early December it happens every year for school children from Ryal, Oklahoma.

Homebuilders Association in Tulsa, Oklahoma create a wonderful experience for the tiny school that is predominantly Native American. The organization which is comprised of business people from around the area offer the kids a shopping spree at the Wal-Mart super center in Tulsa and buying them whatever their little heart desires.

The children all loaded on the buses this cold morning, but the frigid weather wasn't bothering anyone at all as they knew what was awaiting them. For kids like Roper, this is their first time going on such an adventure and he has been told by the older ones that he is in for a "great day"!

Roper is in kindergarten and is the first place that he heads for is the, surprise, the toys where he will find a basketball and a tractor. Candice Bingham is one of the sponsors of the Homebuilders Association and knows that this day isn't just a special day for the kids but for Homesbuilders as well. "This is something that we look forward to doing all year," says Bingham who is with New Home Resource and Remodeling Guide. "We ask our members to dig deep in their pockets and hearts and make it special for the kids and its something that kicks off the Christmas season for all of us. I'm here with Roper and later we're going to meet Santa and eat some pizza!

Bingham wants everyone to know the importance of the goals of the Homebuilders Association and its infrastructure is important to the community." We are different organizations that make the home building industry, everyone from the builder to the supplier, everyone and all the businesses that feed into that industry and we get together and we meet and talk about the issues that affect our industry and we have an advocacy department that works with our government affairs, and helps to move forward laws that protect our industry and our community so we're all about building a better community, we love Tulsa and this is where we make our home."

As the kids arrive, members of the Homebuilders Association will wait at the front of Wal-Mart and as the children get off the buses, they will introduce themselves and pick a child that they will take around the shopping center and help their Christmas just a little better.

Since the inception of this event that began some forty years ago, those who have gone and graduated from Ryal still have good memories of the day that everyone just seems to call 'Homebuilders day'. Joshua Slane of the Creek Nation Communications Department remembers those good times. "We (friends) would be up at the crack of dawn and be looking for that bus coming down the road," says Slane. "We would get to school, take attendance, no surprise that anyone wasn't slacking that day. We couldn't wait to get on the bus and head to Tulsa where we knew the good times lay straight ahead."

Lucas Taylor, Creek Nation Communications Manager agrees with Slane and remembers the Homebuilders day when he was growing up in the Ryal area. "My brothers and sisters and I were so excited about going the next day that we would sleep in our clothes and as soon as the sun came up we were ready to go." Taylor remembers at the time that some of the kids were so excited that they didn't want to wait for the school bus to pick them up, but were almost walking to school.

Freda Frye who works with the Creek

Nation Housing department says that probably the best remembrance that she had occurred when she was in elementary school. "The day was exciting enough for all of us kids getting to shop and buy all the things for us and our family and friends," said Frye. "But one year after the shopping was all done they took us all to another place and

Phillip is a student at Ryal and in his last year at the school. He is in the eighth grade, the highest level that Ryal goes to. Soon he will where decide on what school to attend through High School to graduation. So for his last time enjoying the day with the Homebuilders Phillip will get some things for his family. "The people from Homebuild-

James: "We've been buying a lot of toys. I just got a CD player!"

Blake: "I got some wrestling toys!"

Roper: "I got a basketball and a tractor!"

Allen: "I'm having a lot of fun, I picked out a lot of Star Wars toys!"

Justin: "I got a Texas Hold'em game!"

Robert: "I feel real good about this, they give us a chance to give something to our family. I got my cousin a poster, a Pirates of the Caribbean poster, he really likes that movie!"

John Brawley, who works with an overhead door company has probably been associated with this event longer than anyone. Brawley has been doing this for over 20 years and had this to say. "I like doing this every year, taking the Ryal kids shopping and making sure their Holiday season gets off to a good start. Well, I think this means a great deal to the kids, many of them are not fortunate enough to have a good Christmas and this helps them to do that and lets them know that they are loved and appreciated. And do you know what!? It may be more of a joy for us, all the people representing Homebuilders, because we see that these are good kids and they are thinking of others because they want to buy for so many of their families. That's when you see the real spirit of Christmas

come alive and the good feelings of love are all around."

So Christmas in Ryal will be special for everyone and it will be a time that the kids will never forget.



With smiles and laughter, the students from Ryal School unload from the buses and enjoy a day of shopping at Wal-Mart. photo by Gerald Wofford



Boys from Ryal School proudly show off the items they will purchase from the shopping spree provided by the Homebuilders Association in Tulsa. photo by Gerald Wofford

we had our lunch and everything, but then they asked us all to stand up and go into another room, it was a big building. When we went into the other room, it was full of bicycles. "We want to give everyone a new bike!" said this man over the microphone. "Look for the one with your name on it!" Everyone ran to find their bike with their name on it. How we got them onto the bus, I'll never know."

It's also an exciting day for the Wal-Mart employees who like knowing they did their part in making a lot of kids happy.

Donita Williams has worked with the Wal-Mart corporation for over 15 years and every year she is glad to see the kids arrive. "The kids are so neat," says Williams. "They buy gifts for their family and friends. All the associates really enjoy it, they look forward to it, all the kids are fun to around and every year we can't wait until they arrive."

ers are nice enough to give us money and have fun. I'm going to get some jewelry for my Mom and some stuff for my Dad."

Some of the other kids had shouted out their choices as well.



Which one do I pick? A young girl from Ryal School searches through a display rack at Wal-Mart for her favorite movie in DVD. Not only do the kids buy gifts for themselves, they always manage to purchase gifts for their family as well. Even at a young age, the children at Ryal have not forgotten the true meaning of Christmas, the spirit of giving.

photo by Gerald Wofford

Insufficient Addresses

The following Tribal Registered voters are urged to contact the Creek Nation Election Board to update their address. Call 1 (800) 482-1979 or (918) 732-7684, 7685 and 7631.

England, James A.
England, Lillie M.
England, Samuel C.
England, Terry D.
Enlow (Miller), Linda K
Ennis, Ewelene E.
Ennis, Patricia E.
Enriquez, Betty G.
Epperley, Gary C.
Epperley, Linda A.
Epperson, Gary N.
Erler (Hedding), Mary
Escoe, Emery
Escoe, Herschel H.
Escoe, Leonard H.
Eshleman, Tracy L.
Estle(Chase), Kathryn
Eubanks, Sammy Lee
Evans (Bruton), Frankie
Evans, Jackie Lee
Evans, Kelly Renee
Evans, Tommy Joe
Factor (Franks), Peggy
Factor, Michael W.
Factor, Nancy Jean
Factor, Patrick R.
Factor, Stephen W.
Falconer, Barbara A.
Faris (Madrid), Jamie
Farnsworth, Kathy S.
Feagan (Jensen), Anna
Featherston, Lee
Felix, Richard A.
Felix, Ronnald Jay
Feliz (Pittman), Helen
Feliz, Richard D.
Fenton, Diana Lynn
Ferguson, Carrie L.
Fiarris, Jeanne A.
Fields, Albert John
Fields, Angela Renea
Fields, Billy Daniel
Fields, Brandi Lecher
Fields, Frankie Star
Fields, James
Fields, James A.
Fields, Samuel An-
thony
Fields, Tyra Dawn
Fife, Victor Robert
File (Hardin), Wanda
Finch, Jerry A.
Finks, Richard Lee
Fish, Cindy L.
Fish, Eddie Robert (Sr.)
Fish, Leonard Wayne
Fish, Louis M. (Jr.)
Fish, Mitchell F. (Jr.)
Fisher, Cecil C.
Fisher, Christopher N.
Fisher, Ina
Fisher, Joe
Fisher, John Nathan
Fisher, Johnny Bill
Fisher, Jonathon S.
Fisher, Kenneth L.
Fisher, Kenneth S.
Fisher, Lawrence (Jr.)
Fisher, Lige S.
Fisher, Wynona J.
Fitch (Tiger), Barbara
Fixico (Harjo), Kepsey
Fixico (Spencer), Lenah
Fixico (Synder), Donna
Fixico, Allen Dean
Fixico, Benny Dale
Fixico, Charles (Jr.)
Fixico, Dheri Dawn
Fixico, Edna Mae
Fixico, Elmer
Fixico, Jimmy Dale
Fixico, Kenneth Lee
Fixico, Lloyd Wayne
Fixico, Lou Jean
Fixico, Martha Ann
Fixico, Minnie E.
Fixico, Myron Clair
Fixico, Nellie Jean
Fixico, Quinton L.
Fixico, Richard Dean
Fixico, Rosalie
Fixico, Sheri Dawn
Fixico, Steven
Fixico, Taylor
Fixico, Thomas Dale
Floyd, Jerry D.
Floyd, Phillip D.
Fobb, Ruth Marie
Foley, Brian L.
Foley, Brian Lee
Foley, Charles Ray
Foley, Mark A.
Foley, Sandra Jane
Foley, Sonnie
Folsom, Theresa A.
Fontaine (Gibson), Lola
Ford (Loney), Nina M.
Foreman, Konya S.
Forester, Cheryl Lynn
Forester, Robert Scott
Foster Jr., Charles E.
Foster, Brian S.
Foster, Charles A.

Foster, David R.
Foster, Dawn R.
Foster, Deanne M.
Foster, John E.
Foster, Kendra Lynn
Foster, Tol Anderson
Fowler, Sandra Marie
Foy, Travis E.
Frailey, Marcus G.
Franchek, Cynthia A.
Francis, Elizabeth Ann
Francis, Mark
Francis, Victor T.
Francis, Wilma Fay
Frank (Bigpond), Trudy
Franklin, Doby S.
Fraser, Diane M.
Frazier, Clayton H.
Frazier, Betty R.
Frazier, Constance G.
Frazier, Debra K.
Fream, Beecher Lewis
Fream, Edward L.
Fream, Kim K.,
Fream, Wendy L.
Freeland, Cecelia Kay
Freeman II, Jack
Freeman, Charles F.(Jr.)
Freeman, Jack H.
Freeman, Leola
Freeman, Monica Gail
Freeman, Ronald G.
Freeman, Velma Ruth
Freeman, Vernon B.
Freeman, William E.
French, Alex G.
French, Brandon Kane
French, Gara L.
Frogge, Loy R.
Fruitt, Bernadette S.
Frye (Bunny), Marion
Frye II, Ed Porter
Frye, Darianne
Frye, Fannie
Frye, Janice
Frye, Johnny
Frye, Majel Kathryn
Fulwider, David V.
Funchess, Edward
Furr, Claudette
Gable Jr., James C.
Gable, Mattie L.
Gable, Susie A.
Gaither, William J.
Gallagher, Darla J.
Gallagher, David G.
Gamble, Robert L.
Garcia, Deborah V.
Garrett (Lewis), Eula
Garris (Davis), Pamela
Garrison, Ruth A.
Gaskins, Elizabeth W.
Gaston, Oliver D.
Gatzman, Tanya Lea
Gee, Carmen K.
Gentry, Tennie
Blanche
George, Addie F.
George, Ruben D.
George, Stephen R.
George, Valeta Bertha
Gerais, Marsha L.
Geren, Katherine C.
Gibson, Albert A.
Gibson, Karen Janiece
Gibson, Pamela K.
Gibson, Sherrie L.
Gideon, Michael G.
Gideon, Peggy L.
Gilbert, Elvin H.
Gill, Angela Lee
Gilliam, Constance K.
Gilliam, Maude M.
Gilliland, Melissa Ann
Gillispie, Barbara J.
Gilmore, Rhayma K.
Girod, Gerald S.
Gisler (Oliver), Dee
Gist, Gloria Gwendon
Givens, Charles (Jr.)
Givens, Devan R.
Givens, Donald R.
Givens, Jesse
Givens, Thomas
Givens, Thomas
Givens, Thomas
Gladen, Jason M.
Glasco (Martin), Sandra
Goddard (East), Mary E.
Golden, Mark Tahmer
Goode, Bethel R.
Goodman, Brenda J.
Goodvoice, Jeremy Lee
Goodvoice, Meredith
Goodwin, Julie Dar-
lene
Gordon, John H.
Gore (Wasson), Me-
lissa
Gossett, Carolyn J.
Goudeau, Juriden
Gouge Jr., David A.
Gouge, Edna Mae
Gouge, Melinda J.
Gouge, Peggy A.
Gouge, Thompson
Gowdy, Cathey Ann

Graham, Kimberly S.
Grant, Dilleard Robert
Grant, Margaret J.
Grant, Rena Mae
Grant, Robert Grant
Gray, Carrie C.
Gray, Jacqueline R.
Gray, Regina Kay
Gray, Walter E.
Gray, Walter L.
Grayson, Anthony
Kurt
Grayson, Beatrice
Grayson, Cary C.
Grayson, Curtis (Jr.)
Grayson, Doris A.
Grayson, Max David
Green (Bales), Ruth H.
Green, Dan
Green, Kenneth Dale
Green, Kevin A.
Green, Lisa S.
Greenrock, Sandra
Faye
Greenwood, Heather
Greenwood, John M.
Greenwood, Nona L.
Greenwood, Robert L.
Gregory, Brooke L.
Gregory, Fletcher
Gregory, Hunter T.
Grice(Edwards), Bettie
Griffin, Kristina P.
Griffin, LaVern E.
Griffin, Marla J.
Griffin, Sandra Lynn
Griffith, Robert J.
Griffith, Tony D.
Grimes (Herrod), Katie
Grissom, John E.
Grubbs, Darrell E.
Grubbs, Michael E.
Grummitt, Beverly
Grundy, Pamela R.
Guelld, Virginia A.
Guild, Elizabeth A.
Guinn III, Jesse Albert
Guinn, Cherri Lynn
Guthrie, Carrie Anne
Gutierrez, Marcella
Guynes, Camellia
Renee
Haddox, Deborah D.
Haddox, Joe Bill
Haddox, Kevin J.
Haddox, Marilyn
Haggard, Arby N.
Haggard, Misty Ann
Hagie, Shelia Kay
Haikley, Cindy L.
Haikley, Ellis Riley
Haikley, John P.
Haikley, Larry D.
Haikley, Nathan P.
Hain, Richard T.
Hale, Barbara
Hale, Cecil Kyle
Hale, David R.
Hale, Debbie S.
Hale, Merci L.
Hale, Robert L.
Hale, Tommie N.
Haley, George E.
Hall, Arvie E.
Hall, Carol A.
Hall, Gordon G.
Hall, Mary R.
Hall, Melba J.
Hallford, Lawrence
Hallford, Louie L.
Hallum, Lucille
Hallum, Terry D.
Hamblet, Frank H.
Hamblet, Ruby E.
Hamby, Norma K.
Hammer, Leigh A.
Haney, Roberta Jo
Hanley, Regina L.
Hannan, Grant
Hanson, Flossie Arnita
Hardin, David Ray
Hardin, Gary Wayne
Hardin, Ruby L.
Harding, Eddie R.
Hardison, Marilyn M.
Hare, Karie A.
Harjo (Beaver), Betty
Harjo (George), Valerie
Harjo Claudette
Harjo Scott Lee
Harjo, Albert L.
Harjo, Barney D.
Harjo, Bennie D.
Harjo, Betsy Lorene
Harjo, Charles Wayne
Harjo, Danny Allen
Harjo, Donna S.
Harjo, Douglas
Harjo, Elmer (Jr.)
Harjo, Elmer L. (Sr.)
Harjo, Elmira
Harjo, Geoffory J.
Harjo, Gerald
Harjo, Helen
Harjo, Jacob
Harjo, Jacob Lee
Harjo, Jennifer
Harjo, Jerry Lee
Harjo, Joe
Harjo, Johnny W.
Harjo, Joseph L.
Harjo, Joyce Elaine
Harjo, Kerry N.
Harjo, Larry Phillip
Harjo, Laura A.

Harjo, Lawrence D.
Harjo, Leyahna
Harjo, Lillian
Harjo, Lincoln E.
Harjo, Linda J.
Harjo, Mary A.
Harjo, Matilda M.
Harjo, Monroe J.
Harjo, Naomi R.
Harjo, Nelson J.
Harjo, Newman (Jr.)
Harjo, Opal N.
Harjo, Rhonda D.
Harjo, Robbin S.
Harjo, Robert Michael
Harjo, Roy D.
Harjo, Samuel
Harjo, Shelly R.
Harjo, Shirley Ann
Harjo, Stanely Lee
Harjo, Thomas Lee
Harjo, Thomas Leslie
Harjo, Thomas Wayne
Harjo, Wanda Faye
Harjo, Wiley William
Harjo, Wilson S.
Harjochee, Frankie K.
Harjochee, Michael A.
Harley, Patsy Mae
Harmon, Benjamin (Jr.)
Harmon, Benjamin (Sr.)
Harmon, Sammy D.
Haron, Shona R.
Harper (Walker), Renee
Harper, Casey R.
Harper, Christopher T.
Harper, Henry Albert
Harper, James S.
Harper, Wanda S.
Harris (Russell), Leva
Harris, Wilbert E.
Harrison, Connie M.
Hart, Gregory E.
Hart, Shawna S.
Hartung, Jeffrey B.
Harvey (Doyle), Delphia
Harvey (Haynes), Millie
Harvey, Allen R.
Harvey, Alpha M.
Harvey, Lydia D.
Harwell, Gilbert P.
Hatcher, Leslie K.
Hatcher, Ozelle
Hawkins Jr., Barney
Hawkins, Clint C.
Hawkins, Gary E.
Hawkins, Leta S.
Hawkins, Mattie Jean
Hayes, David H.
Hayes, Lisa A.
Hayhurst, Randall E.
Haynes, Paul David
Haynes, Vernon H.
Heater (Ross), Peggy
Hedberg, Kurt Ernest
Hefner (Smith), Mary A.
Hefner, Lisa Gail
Hefner, Steven Glenn
Heinbach, Susan
Helmer, Jo Adrian
Henderson, Charles J.
Henderson, William V.
Hendrix, Janice L.
Heneha, Mary Jean
Heneha, Norman Jason
Heneha, Ralph Jr.
Henneha, Laura Beth
Henry, Connie R.
Henry, Eugene R.
Henry, Johnie W.
Henry, Sharon Kaye
Henry, Stephen G.
Herbert, Jenea L.
Hernandez, Carlos R.
Hernandez, Liza J.
Herring, Juliana L.
Herrod, Camille A.
Herrod, Frances A.
Herrod, Jonathon
Herrod, Lanny C.
Herrod, Louise
Herrod, Richard L.
Herron, Michael W.
Hess, Alice Gay
Hess, David Eric
Hess, Paul J.
Hess, Regina A.
Hester, Robert Joe
Hicks (Wright), Shelia
Hicks, Bancy
Hicks, Belinda Kay
Hicks, Charley
Hicks, Charlie
Mike(Jr.)
Hicks, Gary D.
Hicks, Henry Sr.
Hicks, Hettie Mae
Hicks, John Albert
Hicks, Keith Aaron
Hicks, Michael K.
Hicks, Nofuah
Hicks, Norman K. (Jr.)
Hicks, Robert J.
Hicks, Ryan Alexander
Hicks, Sherman
Hicks, Terrie Lynn
Hicks, Terry Jesse (Jr.)
Hightower, Marylou
Hill (Joy), Joann
Hill, Benjamin (Jr.)
Hill, Billy Dean

Hill, Clark E.
Hill, Dora May
Hill, Felix
Hill, Frances Marie
Hill, Franklin Dee
Hill, Jacqueline T.
Hill, Katherine L.
Hill, Levi
Hill, Mandy
Hill, Millie Drene
Hill, Nancy
Hill, Sabrina Diane
Hill, Sonja Ann
Hill, Stewart
Hill, Stoney Flagstaff
Hill, Tamara D.
Hill, Vanessa J.
Hill, Wayland J.
Hillburn, Jeffrey S.
Hillmon, Mildred S.
Hillory(Fields), Doro-
thy
Hinkle, Lillie Ann
Hite (Esmond), Pau-
line
Hixson (Butler), Karen
Hoag (Scott), Mary L.
Hobbs (Scantlen), Leann
Hobbs, Stephanie
Hobia, Kelly S.
Hodgden, Jennifer J.
Hodge, Billy G.
Hodge, Daniel Ray
Hodge, Floyd W.
Hodge, Jerry W.
Hodge, Joshua L.
Hodge, Kelly D.
Hodge, Larry D.
Hodges, Frances Jean
Hoehn (Freeman), Carla
Hoffman, Loretta F.
Hoffstrom, Cindy Sue
Hogner, David A.
Holahta, Louis
Holata, Jamie E.
Hold, Beverly Ann
Holdridge, Brandon S.
Holladay, Robert D.
Holland, Marjorie R.
Holland, Terri Sue
Hollstelle, James D.
Holleyman, Henry H.
Holleyman, Henry M.
Holloway III, Samuel J.
Holloway, Gwen M.
Holloway, Samuel J.(Jr.)
Holmes, Rebecca
Holmes, Shirley A.
Holt (Dice), Hazel M.
Holt, Cherry Mable
Holt, Marvin L.
Holuby, Ronnie Gene
Homeratha, Effie
Hood, Barry Keith
Hood, Rachel N.
Hood, Wanda J.
Hooper, Anita Jean
Hooper, Michael
Shayne
Hope, Kathy J.
Hope, Pamela K.
Hopgood, Adrianne M.
Hopkins, Tommie L.
Hopper (Webb), Carla
Horn, Adarin A.
Horner, James Stephen
Horse, Georgia Jo
Horse, Sophia Denise
Horton, Artie R.
Horton, Heather
Denise
Horton, Samuel S.
Howard, Leland B.
Howard, Lena Mae
Howdeshell Sr., Don-
ald
Howell, Billy Don
Howell, Earl Dean
Howell, Larry J.
Hudgens, Wendy L.
Hueston, James D.
Hughes, Jamie R.
Hughes, William S.
Hull, Eva B.
Hull, William L.
Hulsey, Harry J.
Hummingbird, Irene
Hunt, Donna Jean
Hunt, James C.
Hunt, Thomas R.
Hunt, William C.
Hunter, Frank J. (Jr.)
Hunter, John H.
Hunter, Karen J.
Hunter-Law, Michele
D. Hurd, Gwendolyn A.
Hurd, Terry J.
Hurt, Aaron C.
Hutson, Myrna J.
Hyde (Ross), Anne
Hyde, Richard R.
Ickes (Tiger), Shonna
Inderlied, Karen E.
Indian, Evangelina A.
Ingram (Grayson), Alice
Ingram, Dana L.
Ingram, Marjorie A.
Ingram, Thomas C.
Ingram, Warren T.
Inks (Kelley), Mary Ann

Irish (Nelson), Linda
Irons, Naomi
Irvin, Bobbie L. (Jr.)
Isham, Sara R.
Isham-Amos, Tina
Ishmael, Carl C.
Ishmael, John Lee
Ishmael, John Matthew
Ishmael, Joshua Lee
Ishmael, Maxine
Ishmael, Regenia Kaye
Issac, Michael Allen
Jack, Everett L. (Jr.)
Jack, Everett L. (Sr.)
Jack, Jimmie
Jack, Juanita Lyn
Jack, Mitch Allen
Jackson III, Kenneth D
Jackson, Betty S.
Jackson, Clifford O. (Jr.)
Jackson, Dave
Jackson, Della Marie
Jackson, Geneva
Jackson, Jackie Lynn
Jackson, Jerry L.
Jackson, Jimmie W.
Jackson, Kelley R.
Jackson, Kenneth D.
Jackson, Rhonda
Carole
Jackson, Robert W.
Jackson, Shelly L.
Jackson, Timmie O.
Jackson, Timothy A.
Jackson,Christina
Renee
Jacobs, Jacqueline
Jacobs, John A.
Jacobs, Linda
Jacobs, Warren A..
Jacobs, William R.
Jacobs, Willie
Jaggars (Golden), Dawn
James (Cole), Cynthia
James, Jeffrey W.
James, John David
James, Michael L.
James, Orville E. (Jr.)
James, Robert E.
James, William D.
Janzen, Teresa D.
Jenkins, William L.
Jesse, Jimmie Jo
Jesse, William D.
Jessie, Lisa S.
Jihad, Roshell
Jimboy, Cornelius W.
Jimboy, Edith
Jimboy, Edna Mae
Jimboy, Jay M.
Jimboy, Marcy
Jimboy, Ray
Jimboy, Richard Allen
Jimboy, Robin Bobby
Jimboy, Tonya R.
John, Henry Joe (Sr.)
John, Mary
Johnson (King), Lizzie
Johnson (Smith), Betty
Johnson, Albert (Jr.)
Johnson, Christina G.
Johnson, David An-
drew
Johnson, David Lyle
Johnson, Erwin J.
Johnson, Floyd
Johnson, Gary
Johnson, Jimmy Miller
Johnson, Joann
Johnson, Joseph
Johnson, Joyce Chris-
tine
Johnson, Karen M.
Johnson, Kenneth
Johnson, Kimberly A.
Johnson, Lee Otis
Johnson, Leslie A.
Johnson, Little T. (Jr.)
Johnson, Lucinda
Johnson, Marvin Ray
Johnson, Mary B.
Johnson, Melissa Gail
Johnson, Rhonda Kay
Johnson, Ronald
Johnson, Ruby Lee
Johnson, Samuel (Jr.)
Johnson, Sarah
Johnson, Shirley Ann
Johnson, Thomas L.
Johnson, Tony Sr.
Johnson, Twana J.
Johnson, Van Lee
Johnston, Tracey
Jones (Barnett), Nellie
Jones (Freeman), Annie
Jones (Grayson), Betty J
Jones (Stone), Dianne M
Jones Jr., Jesse A.
Jones, Alysia M.
Jones, Bonnie L.
Jones, Charles A.
Jones, Christopher C.
Jones, Danny Joe
Jones, Darrel Lee
Jones, Darrell Ray
Jones, Dixie Kay
Jones, Gary Laverne
Jones, Jeremiah K.
Jones, Johnny Eugene
Jones, Johona Jessica M.
Jones, Juanita M.

Jones, Kathryn W.
Jones, Kelli J.
Jones, Kenneth R.
Jones, Laverne
Jones, Patrick W.
Jones, Paul
Jones, Phoebe A.
Jones, Robert
Jones, Roxanne Lynn
Jones, Samuel Leroy
Jones, Shane O.
Jones, William A.
Jordan (Roberts), Lillian
Jordan, Clifford L.
Jordan, Jennifer
Joseph, Danny L.
Joseph, Matthew A.
Josie, Katrina Rose
Joslin, Patricia Ann
July, Randy L.
Kamp, Robert A.
Kamp, Ted M.
Kaniatobe, Marian
Karlamey, Betty Jane
Kaseca (Squire), Nancy
Kassim (Hale), Audie J.
Katcv, Freeman M.
Keaough, Evelyn J.
Keele, Valace Marion
Keeler, Anita F.
Keeler, Edgar L.
Keene, Darryl L.
Keene, Kenneth (Jr.)
Keene, Lora
Keepers, Melisa L.
Keith, Josephine Salina
Keith, Sandra Kay
Kellehan, Carla D.
Kellehan, Paula J.
Kelley (Haggard), Flora
Kelley, Loretta Ilene
Kelly (Pitman), Dina
Kelly, Bill D.
Kelly, Judy Ann
Kelly, Martha E.
Kelough, Barbara Gail
Kelough, Crystal Gail
Kelough, Jimmy D.
Kelough, Toney
Wylone
Kemp, Dewana K.
Kemp, Randy G.
Kennedy, Gertude A.
Kennedy, Michael J.
Kenney, Sandra M.
Kennon, Gary B.
Kerby, James D.
Kerley, Cynthia Ann
Kernal, Harry
Kerns, Charlotte A.
Kerr, Barre D.
Kerr, Marc R.
Killingsworth, Michael
Kimble, Travis L.
King (Jones), Joanna
King IV, James F.
King, Dale E.
King, Jackson (Musk.)
King, Jackson (Law-
ton)
King, Joanna Lynn
King, Lauren J.
King, Michael E.
King, Michael J.
King, Tara A.
King, Terry D.
King-Simmons, Carolyn
Kinne, Christena S.
Kinsey, Rachel
Kirkpatrick, Nancy S.
Kissee, Rebekah Kay
Klein, Casandra L.
Knight, Bobby Joe
Knight, Charles Wal-
lace
Knight, Jackson R.
Knights (Beaver), Carol
Knotts (Allen), Juanita
Knox, David L.
Knox, Michael W.
Koch, Paul Brandon
Koch, Stephanie
Janeen
Korgan, Jaime D.
Koshiway, Marilyn
Kuykendall, Malinda L.
L'Ecuyer, Lawrence J.
Lacey, Starr D.
Lackey, Billy J.
Ladd, Trisha D.
Lakey, Amanda Kay
Laman, Juanita G.
Lamar, Malissie
Land, Dinah K.
Land, Grover Monroe
Lane, Paula J.
Langston, Gary L.
Lanham, Larry L.
Lanier, Lisa M.
Lansdale, Larry J.
Lara (Fixico), Wynona
Larew, Carol S.
LaSarge, Anthony S.
LaSarge, Thomas
Latal (Roberts), Helen
Latchaw, Raelyn R.
Launders, Anthony W.
Lavalley, Thomas L.
Lay(Fisher), Vera Lee
Leach, Loretta S.
Leader, Cynthia L.

Leader, Raymond (Sr.)
Leader-Harlay, Brigita
Leard, Dale L.
Leard, Lane M.
Leath, Mary C.
Ledbetter, Shellie Dee
Lee (Wildcat), Patsy
Lee, Andrew D.
Lee, Ethel Ernestine
Lee, Gene Tunney (Jr.)
Lee, James W.
Lee, Johnnie M.
Lee, Joyce Ann
Lee, Ricky J.
Lee, Wilfred E.
Lees, Brian Duane
Legrand, Lahoma L.
Lemon, Brian M.
Lemons, Virgina L.
Lena, Linda Lou
Lena, Louis
Lena, Mark D.
Leonard (Tilley), Helen
Leonard, Kirby Scott
Lester, Betty J.
Levecque, Patricia A.
Levy, David B.
Levy, David Benjamin
Lewis, Big Cloud
Lewis, Bryan L.
Lewis, Charles (Jr.)
Lewis, Harley W.
Lewis, James R.
Lewis, Jessie W.
Lewis, Linda
Lewis, Lizzie
Lewis, Maggie
Leybas, Daniel G.
Lidyard, Pamela J.
Lile (Henson), Janet R.
Lincoln, Ramona Sue
Lindsey (Hill), Mary
Lindsey, Alice M.
Lindsey, Becky Lou
Lindsey, Becky Lou
Lindsey, Sandy Louise
Lindsey, Thomas J.
Lindsey, Tumissah Sue
Lipp (Gilbert), Serena
Little (Watt), Donna G.
Little (Williams), Tonya
Little, Debbie K.
Little, Jerry J.
Little, Kendall J.
Little, Minnie Jean
Little, Shannon Marie
Littlehead, Claudia Kay
Littlehead, William B.
Livingston, Jessica L.
Locust, Allen Lee
Locust, Matthew Day
Locust, Robyn Lanette
Logan, Jemmie Melton
Logan, John Baker (Jr.)
Logsdon, Rickey W.
Lollman, Cheri J.
London (Banks), Kyli L.
Loney, Timothy J.
Long (Tilley), Linda Jo
Long, Bobbie J.
Long, Larry Gene
Long, Lou Ann
Long, Paul Wayne
Long, Roddy W.
Long, Terra Marina
Longacre, Sandra Kay
Longhorn, Juanita L.
Longhorn, Margaret E.
Looney, Barton Joe
Looney, Stephanie
Lynn
Lou Jean Fixico
Loveclace, Charlene C.
Loven (Brady), Linda K.
Lovett, Donna Luann
Lowe, Amos James
Lowe, Fredrick
Lowe, Freeman
Lowe, Pauline
Lowe, Ronald James
Loyd, Barry Wendell
Loyd, Bobby David
Lucas, Joe Tom
Lucas, Robert Jesse
Luellen, William R.
Luke (Martin), Mary R.
Lunsford, Jeremy
Daniel
Luquette, Raelena
Lynn
Luster, Melissa Ann
Luster, Michael Ray
Luster, Ray Clinton
Lynch, Richard
Mahoney, Maggie
Marie
Manaia, Linda Lee
Manley, Noah Eugene
Mannon, Robert Lynn
Marks, Rocky Lee
Marler, Brandon Lee
Marr, Shelly Kay
Marris
(Hawkin),Louise
Marshall, Ernest
Marshall, Leona Mae
Marshall, Stoney
Martel, Joe Garza (Jr.)
Martin, Peggy Ann
Mason, Alfred (Jr.)
Mason, Edward James
Mason, Nancy Sue

Continued on B6

Election Board

continued from B5

Mason, Yarma Faye
Massey, Dorotha K.
Massey, Evelyn Kae
Massey, Julie Nealene
Masters, Patricia Ann
Masterson, Bruce E.
Masterson, Bruce John
Masterson, Virginia A.
Maston, Coyce Jr.
Matheson, Katrina D.
Mathews, Shirley Ann
Matthews, Virginia Illa
Mattison, Glen Eugene
Mattison, Richard Doyle
Maxey, Mark Douglas
Mayberry, Bobby Gene
Mayberry, Donald Ray
Mayberry, Dorothy E.
Mayberry, Eddie Paul
Mayberry, Eric Denton
Mayberry, Larry Don
Mayberry, William C.
Mayes, Celesta Jean
Mayes, Thomas Dwayne
Mayes, Wanda Sue
McBroom, Lydia Carrie
McCabe, Terry
McCallie, James Ross
McCampbell, Shelia M.
McCloskey, Trix Leann
McClung III, Charles E.
McClung, James Wesley
McCombs, Joseph J.(Jr.)
McConnell,Anne Ashley
McCosar, James Patrick
McCosar, Janie Ruth
McCosar, Thomas
McCutcheon, Carol Joan
McCutcheon, Daniel B.
McCutcheon, David P.
McCutcheon, Samuel R.
McDermott, Reba Jean
McElroy, James Edward
McElroy, Timothy W.
McElyea, Carol Darlene
McGertt, Louis
McGinnis, Lance P.
McGirt, Carmen Renee
McGirt, Wisey Jean
McGrette, Inda Mae
McGuire, Annette Starr
McIntosh, Bennie Willie
McIntosh, Brenda Jean
McIntosh, Suzanne
McKane, Billy Gene
McKay, Eddie Lee
McKee, Jimmy Leon
McKellip, Janice Hope
McKenzie, Kenneth R.
McKinzie, Jimmy D.
McKinzie, Stephen Ray
McLaughlin, Leslie Joan
McMahan, David Shane
McMahon, Sharon Kay
McNac, Amos
McNac, Amos Phillip
McNac, George Eric
McNac, Georgia Ann
McNac, Jamie Lynette
McNac, Kimberly Ray
McNac, Maggie Jane
McNac, Peter
McNac, Royce Jean
McNac, Wendall Alan
McNeese, Robert Allen
McPerryman, Ernest L.
McVeigh, Karie Dawn
Mead, Robbie Rae
Meely, Alex Michelle
Meely, Arnold Douglas
Melton, Chalon Densie
Mercer (Cantrell), Janet
Messer, Edna Mae
Messer, Kenneth Dale
Meyer, Jennifer Ruth
Miller III, Quint Henry
Miller, Carolyn Lynn
Miller, Randall Dale
Miller, Ronnie Eddie
Miller, Thomas Ray
Mills, Deanna Lee
Millwee, Teresa Dian
Minor, Joyce Janell
Mirabal, Charleen Kay
Mitchell, Christopher S.
Mitchell, Jennifer Ann
Mitchell, Wilford
Moffer, Karen Jean
Monahwee, Anthony W.
Monahwee, LaTasha S.
Monahwee, Yommie L.
Monday, Lewis Ray
Montemayor, Wendy G.
Monts, Jeanetta Olivia
Moore (Anderson), anna
Morgan, Alma June
Morgan, Elmo (Jr.)
Morgan, Richard Joseph
Morrow Jr., Floyd A.
Morrow, Denise Denae
Morrow, William Lester
Morton, Lori Kay
Moses, Cynthia Regina
Mosquito, Debra Lynn
Mullins, Virginia Marie
Murdoch, Bruce T.
Murphy, Aubrey Gene
Murphy, Wilkie Wilton
Musgrove, Grady H.
Mutz, Marla Jenee
Nacho (McIntosh), Ella
Natseway, Christopher
Neal, Bertha Kathlene
Neal, Homer Dean
Neal, James Boyd
Neal, Jennifer Dawn
Nelson, Alice Gertrude

Nelson, Lora Ann
Nelson, Magdalene
Nelson, Rachel Renee
Newberry, Jackie Lee
Nimsey, Brook Reed
Nix, Crystal Jane
Nix, Robert Stephen
Nixon, Kniga Ann
Noah (Aultman), Oleeta
Noah (Randall), Wilma
Noah, Orvel Eugene
Noel, Jack
Nokushutche,PzceHutke
Noon, Carl Ray
Noon, Steven
Noon, Thelma Jean
Norbury, Linda Sue
Nordlund, Judith Ray
Norris, Florence K.
Nunamaker, Leatrice J.
Nunamaker, Lucinda A.
Nunley, Jennifer Kaye
O'Dell (Madrid), Margo
O'Donnell, Michelle L.
O'Field, Jackie
O'Mahony, Robin Dawn
Oldham, Rocky M.
Oldham, Stoney Wayne
Olea, Emma Jean
Oliver, Jacky Clenton
Oliver, Mary Carol
Olsen, Jerome Andrew
One Bear, Lydia Ann
Orr, Sally Shannon
Osborn, Terry Dean
Osborne, Sara Beth
Osborne, Shelley Marie
Osborne, Tonya Ann
Ostorwski, Shawna M.
Overstreet, Deborah L.
Pahsetopah, Gwyneth J.
Pahsetopah, Jon Montel
Pahsetopah, Michael P.
Pahsetopah, Russell L.
Pahsetopah, Vicky L.
Panoske, Mary Alice
Parkinson (Felix), Irene
Parkinson, James Jeffrey
Pascale, David Clayton
Pass, Amanda Lynn
Pass, Marion Lee
Payne, Pamela Elaine
Pearce, Charlotte Ann
Pearson, Lavena Jane
Pearson, Rickey Don
Pemberton, Orvil W.
Pemberton, Sally Ann
Perkins, Ruth Kathleen
Perry, Emma Jayne
Perry, Louise Louisa
Perry, Woodrow Wilson
Perryman, Quentin D.
Perryman, Thomas E.
Peyketewa, Jemal
Pharaoh, Danie Lynn
Phillip, Vance Burden
Phillips, Debra Denise
Phillips, Helen Ruth
Phillips, Roy Allen (Jr.)
Phillips, Shari Lynn
Pickering, Audra Coleen
Pickett (Self), Plezzie L.
Pigeon, Brandon
Pigeon, Ricky Nel
Pigeon, Stanley Guy
Pike, Pamela Rebecca
Pipkins, Kimberly E.
Pipkins, Patricia Ann
Pitre, Stella Louise
Pool, Helen Mae
Pope (Scott), Maria
Pope, Lesa Ann
Posey, Gene Raymond
Postoak, Erick Allen
Postoak, Monty Dale
Pottorf, Raymond Arlie
Powell, Anita Sue
Powers, Carolyn Sue
Prentice, Shaunna M.
Prevett, Dale Alan
Prince (Morrison), Lula
Procello, Alicia Nicole
Proctor, Arney
Proctor, Hattie Louise
Proctor, Jeffrey
Proctor, Lewis Newcus
Provence, Evelyn Jean
Rabbit, Lorene
Ralston, Billy Joe
Ralston, Harvey Lee
Ralston, Vernon R.
Ramirez (Bear), Rachel
Randall, Agnes Ruth
Randall, Hanna Jo
Randall, Kogee Jean
Randall, Wesley W.
Randell, Richard
Rangel, Virgina Nadine
Rash, Ramona Renee
Rathbun, Jerry Robert
Ray, Helen Lorraine
Ray, Juanita Rachel
Redcherries, Juanita Lou
Redeau (Tolon), Sheila
Redeau, Alfred (Jr.)
Reed (Roe), Sharon E.
Reed, Dennis Morris
Reed, Jeffrey Dan
Reed, Patricia Ann
Reed, Timothy Alfred
Reeder, Deborah Ann
Reeder, Robert D.
Reel (Pittman), Donna S
Reins, Donette Ann
Reynolds, Joyce Beth
Rich, Whitney Lauree'
Richards, Claude M.
Riddle, Andrea Sue

Ridgway, Isla M.
Ridley, Loretta Irene
Riggie, Ella Ruth
Riley, Beaver Kyle
Riley, James Glen
Riley, Richard Earl
Riley, Richard Robert
Riley, Theodore Garland
Rinehart, Richard C.
Rinehart, Ronald T.
Rinehart, Russell Fred
Risenhoover, Shirley J.
Roach, Alice Louise
Roach, Damon Bradley
Roach, Kevin Ward
Roanhorse, Doris L.
Robbins, Cynthia Marie
Roberts (Shepherd) May
Roberts(Shepherd),May
Roberts, Anthony W.
Roberts, Elizabeth Ann
Roberts, Iva Lynn
Roberts, James C. (Jr.)
Roberts, Jeana Lynn
Roberts, Richard Joseph
Roberts, Richenda D.
Roberts, Sandra Ann
Robinson, Agnes F.
Robison, Bert Allen
Robison, Orick Henri
Robison, Randal Reed
Robison, Rosalious
Robison, Scott Wayne
Robison, Shirley Mae
Rodebush (Fisher), Nina
Rogers, Georgia Ann
Rolland, Amos Wilson
Rolland, James Michael
Romig, Douglas Dean
Rooks, Michael George
Root (Mullins), Carla R.
Rosana, Whitlow
Rose, Roger Phillip
Rose, roger Phillip
Rose, Tammy Jean
Ross, Charlotte Kay
Roughface, Alva E. (Jr.)
Rowe, Brian Wayne
Rowe, Calarney
Rowe, Georgina Elaine
Rowe, Jackie Larae
Rowe, Larry Glenn
Rumsey, Carlos
Rumsey, Rocky Ray
Russell, Charley Leon
Russell, Floyd Allen
Russie, Betty Jean
Ryal, Mark Dewayne
Sack, Curtis Eugene
Sales(McAfee), Emma
Saline, Stevin Jay (Jr.)
Samuel, Betty Jean
Sanders (Miller), Brenda
Sanders, Kenneth (Jr.)
Sanders, Kenneth (Sr.)
Sanders, Nathan
Sanders, Philip W.
Sanders, Polly Anne
Sanders, Ruby Lee
Sanders, Tisa Ann
Sanders, Veva- Authula
Sanders, Virgil
Sandlin, Danny Gene
Sands, Carl J.
Sands, Derek Conrad
Sands, Lisa Jane
Sands, Robert Lemley
Sanford, Tressa Lynn
Sanger, David Fenton
Sapulpa, Ella Louise M.
Satawake, Donna Faye
Schanks, Billy Dee W.
Schiller, Christopher M.
Schooley, Mildred Clare
Schreiner, Rhoda Dean
Schupman, Edwin (Jr.)
Scott (Worcester) Myra
Scott, George Alexander
Scott, Gerald Dennis
Scott, Jerry Kevin
Scott, Jesse Ellis
Scott, John Turner (Jr.)
Scott, Lena Mozelle
Scott, Lyn Eliot
Scott, Reggy Alan
Scott, Samuel Nathaniel
Scraper, Deanna A.
Scraper, Michelle Mae
Scraper, Tonya Kay
Scroggins, Richard (Jr.)
Sealy, Clifford C.(Jr.)
Seawright, John Michael
Seiler, Cynthia Marie
Self, Jimmy Russell
Selsor, Kelli Jo Ann
Settle, Lisa Anne
Shaffer (Jones), Elsie
Shamp, Ruth Lorene
Sharp, Alvin Willard
Sharp, Andrew Jason
Sheeler, Michael Ray
Sheppard, James C.
Shields, Suzanne E.
Shinogee, Edward S.
Shipley (Cole), Gracie
Shirley, Timothy W.
Shobe, Nancy Jo
Sides, Clinton Patrick
Simmers, Carol Sue
Simmers, Edward Lee
Simmons, Pamela Gay
Simmons, Tootie
Simms II, Yahola
Simonds, Patricia Aline
Simpson, Charles D.
Sinor, Mary Elizabeth
Skaggs, Jerry Kim
Skaggs, Jerry Kim

Slaton, Pamela Sue
Slayden, Leona Maxine
Sloan, Ladonna Kay
Smith, Arlinda O.
Smith, Curtis
Smith, Curtis
Smith, Deborah Kay
Smith, Harold Bell
Smith, Joe David
Smith, Johnnie Ray Smith,
Ntasha Jill
Smith, Kathryn E.
Smith, Laverne
Smith, Leslie Manowa
Smith, Maxine Pittman
Smith, Michelle Dawn
Smith, Rayma Kay
Smith, Terri Lynn
Smith, Wanda Louise
Smith,Barbara Pattie J.
Smock, John Campbell
Smoot, Aimee Christin
Smoot, Jerry Doyle
Smoot, Mary Kathrine
Snyder, Tommy Wayne
Sowell, David Buck
Spain, Alvena Louise
Spain, Raymond Lewis
Spottedbird, Rita C.
Springer, Florence M.
Springer, Kyle Benson
Stacy, Florence Ann
Stacy, William Berl
Stafford, Robin Leann
Staller, Ruthanne
Stapp, Clinton Gene
Stapp, Risa Lorene
Starkey, Erica Sue
Starkey, Ryan Joseph
Starr, Jimmie
Starr, Michael Dewayne
Steger, Shelley Dawn
Stephens, John Matthew
Sternier, Billie Claudine
Sternier, Billy C.
Stevens, Clifford Wayne
Stevens, Ronald Gene
Steward, Debora Danise
Stewart, Kristin Lou
Stewart, Robert Frank
Stice, Curtis Lynn
Stidham, Susan Lynn
Stilwell (Sands), Mary
Stockstell, Jennifer Page
Strickland, Sarah K.
Stroble, Vernon Lee
Stubblefield, Sharon R.
Sugar, Christopher Jr.
Sullins, Randall D.
Sullins, Roger William
Sullivan, Polly Elizabeth
Sutton, Tina Merle
Switzer, Brian Wade
Switzer, Juanita June
Switzer, Juanita June
Synder (Reel), Shelly L.
Synder, Lois Ellen
Tabor, Nancy Catherine
Taryole, Newman

Taryole, Prince Steven
Tate, Diana Lynn
Tatum, Pauline Maggie
Taylor, Connie Ruth
Taylor, Elmer
Taylor, Myron Edward
Taylor, Patricia
Tecumseh, Cetto-Mekko
Tecumseh, Katherine L.
Tecumseh, Tullemarsey
Tecumseh, Yv-Hv-Etv
Telford, Tina Michell
Thasiah, Billie Faye
Theus, Lajeune Joann
Thomas, Leslie Mack
Thomas, Maurietta A.
Thomas, Maurietta A.
Thomas, Valerie Ann
Thomas, Vanessa Kay
Thomas, Victor Alan
Thomason, Deana Ruth
Thompson, Belva Jean
Thompson, Marshall (Jr)
Thompson, Melville D
Thompson, Pamela
Tide, Rosette Marie
Tidwell, Tommy Grover
Tieben, Edna Bettie
Tieben, John Kite
Tiger (Bear), Annie
Tiger, Alice Renee
Tiger, Anthony Lee
Tiger, Benjamin Allen
Tiger, Charleanna
Tiger, Christina M.
Tiger, Darrell Wayne
Tiger, Elizabeth Diane
Tiger, Eric
Tiger, George Samuel
Tiger, Harold Charles
Tiger, Keith Johnson
Tiger, Michael Andrew
Tiger, Ruth Ann
Tiger, Ted
Tiger, Thelma Louise
Tiger, Timothy Rush
Tilley, Darrell Gene
Tilley, Emmit Gene
Tilley, Georgina Faye
Tilley, Thomas Eugene
Tilley, Zelva Lee
Timken, Jennifer Moore
Timothy, William Scott
Tipton, Karen Ann
Toledo, Shirley Ann
Tomlin, Chiffie Tyrone
Toney, Nathan Lee
Torbett, Russell Byron
Torbett, Zachary Quinn
Torres, Gayle Anne
Torres, Rebecca June
Tottress, Kermitta S.
Traylor, Sarah Emline
Treat, Lisa Elaine
Trewin, Ellen Elaine
Turner, Jack Dean
Tyler, Eugene
Tyler, Margaret Ann

Underwood, Teresa J.
Vancil, Constance Lynn
Vann, Anna Mae
Vasquez, Alice Marie
Vasquez, Maria Deidre
Vaughn, Martha Jane
Vaught, Tina Leann
Vincent, Jesse Elmo(Jr.)
Vincent, Jessie Elmo
Voils, Scotty Ray
Vrazel, Charlotte Gail
Wade, Edith Pearl
Wadsworth, Benny R.
Wadsworth, John P.
Wadsworth, Laura Kate
Wakatani, Dorena Lee
Walden, Tami Darlene
Waldon, Gary Fred
Walker (Evans), Willie
Walker (Harjo), Bobbie
Walker, Jennifer Jean
Walker, Michael Dale
Walker, Robert Wayne
Walker, Virgil Ray
Walkup, Genetta
Walkup, Genetta
Wall, Charles Ray (Sr.)
Wallace, Debra Gayle
Wallace, Travis Dean
Walston, Sherry Lee
Walston, Talisha Rose
Walters, James Edward
Walters, Margaret Ann
Warrior, Latreva M.
Washington, April D.
Washington, Betty Lois
Washington, Birdie D.
Washington, Donald R.
Washington, Donna L.
Washington, Hyatt N.
Washington, Janet Sue
Washington, Jeanette R.
Washington, Joe (Jr.)
Washington, Michael A.
Washington, Thomas Jr.
Washington, Thomas R.
Washington, William J.
Watashe, Gary Lee
Waters, Anita Sue
Watson, Cora Lee
Watson, Delores Jean
Watson, George W. (Jr.)
Watson, Julian Blair
Watson, Neenah Jean
Watson, Phyllis Marie
Watters, David Eugene
Wauahdooah, Joanne
Weaver, Rebecca Sue
Webb, Charles (Jr.)
Webb, Randy Hugh
Webb-Collins, Eula Bell
Webster, Kristie Lynn
Weder, Ora May
Wehunt, Patrick Wayne
Welch, Patrick Leon
Wells (Dunn), Josephine
Wells, Rosezena J.
West, Adam

West, Cheryl Ann
West, Cheryl Ann
West, Christopher Don
West, David
West, Ester
West, Heather
West, Michelle Leigh
West, Parnell
West, Sally Mae
Wheatley, Maxine
White (Allen), Fay Ann
White, Barbara Jo
White, Monica Hope
White, Randall Dean
Whitcotton, John
Whitfield, Gladys N.
Whitson, Eddie Floyd
Whitson, Jeffery Neal
Whitson, Karen Jan
Whitson, Mac Duane
Williams(Keys), Julayne
Williams, Beverly Jean
Williams, Cara Danelle
Williams, Dave Alan
Williams, Dave Alan
Williams, Jeremy Paul
Williams, Ronald Lynn
Willie, Tooskey Sam
Willis, Bruner
Willis, Cheryl Diane
Wills, Susan Elaine
Wilson II, Otis Allen
Wilson, Barry Leon
Wilson, Laura Charlene
Wilson, Nora Elvenia
Wind III, Jess Arie
Wind, Stephen Leslie
Windell, Linda Ann
Winkle, Marietta Elcia
Winters, Glen Nelson
Wise, Lendon Ray
Wisner II, Michael P
Wisner, Jonnie Lee
Witty, Dale Ralph
Wolf (Harjochee), Judy
Wolfe, Ellen Denise
Wolfe, James Darrell
Wood, Judy Florene
Wood, Steve Melvin
Woody, Ronnie Wayne
Wooten, Dennis Karl
Wooten, Donald James
Workizer, Patsy Pauline
Workman, Ollie Mae
Wright (Tiger), Candice
Wright, Cleo Milburn
Wright, Patricia J.
Wright, Teddy Lee
Yahola, Jonathon David
Yahola, Leandra Kay
Yardy, Thomas Lewis
Yargee, Amon Eugene
Yingling, Iva Louise
York, Robyn Jonelle
Young, Tonya Leigh
Young, William B.
Young, William B.
Zielke, Roberta

CHALLENGE BOWL WINNERS 2006



High School / 1st Place
WILSON POOR INDIANS



High School / 2nd Place
HANNA HOLETTE



High School / 3rd Place
EUFAULA IRONHEADS



Middle School /1st Place
DEWAR RED SNAKES



Middle School /2nd Place
WILSON MEKKO'S



Middle School /3rd Place
WETUMKA TAVA CATE



High School / Sportsmanship
WILSON KACCVS LVSTE



Middle School /Sportsmanship
EUFAULA IRONHEADS

KEVIN BIGPOND

Wadsworth, NV — Funeral services for Kevin Allen “Lee” Bigpond were held on October 26, at the Wadsworth Gym.

Kevin was born in Los Angeles, Ca. on July 25, 1960 and raised in the Reno/Sparks area.

He is survived by his son Donald Lee Bigpond, daughters: Shonae Thacker, Clara Campbell, and Annie Bigpond; mother Lana

Hicks and step-father Donald Hicks of Fallon, NV.; sisters Kathy Bigpond of Wadsworth, NV., and Lori Pasqua of Gardenville, Nevada; Step sisters Carmen Crutcher of Fallon, Nevada and Rosanna Hicks of Bishop, California; his father Ethan Bigpond and step mother Maureen Bigpond of Shawnee; sisters Valencia and Kogee Bigpond; brothers: Scott, Ethan Jr., and Gibson Bigpond; and numerous uncles, aunts, cousins, nieces, nephews, and two grandchildren.

Interment was at the Wadsworth Cemetery.

Joann Deere

COWETA — Funeral services for Joann Frances Deere were held November 16, at the First United Methodist Church in Coweta with Reverend Pat Freeman and Lyle Deere officiating.

Joann was born on June 10, 1936 in Broken Arrow, to John and Fannie Mae (Berryhill) Chalakee.

She received her education in the Coweta School System and graduated from high school in 1955.

Deere attended Tulsa Community College, Bacone Jr. College, and Connors State College for four years.

In August, 1957 she and Kenneth Deere were united in marriage. They later divorced. She lived in Washington D.C. from 1976 to 1999.

She came to the Coweta area in 2004 from Albuquerque, NM.

Joann worked as an administrator for the Bureau of Indian Affairs for 30 years until her retirement in 2004. She was a member of the Springtown Indian United Methodist Church. She was on the Creek Nation Citizenship Board, past director of the Women’s Division of General Board of Global Ministries, and past president of the district conference of the Oklahoma United Indian Methodist Church. She also received a Meritorious Service Award from the Department of Interior secretary, Gail Norton.

She was preceded in death by her parents.

Survivors included one son Lyle Deere and his wife, Joyce of Muskogee; two daughters, Lisa Deere of Muskogee and Johnna Gouge and her husband, Leonard of Coweta; one brother Daniel Chalakee of Tulsa; five sisters Martha Jane Reece and her husband John of Coweta, Louvina Frank of Coweta, Nora Replogle and her husband Russell of Broken Arrow, Johnnie Greene and her husband Johnny of Coweta, and Josephine Deere and her husband Jerry of Coweta; six grandchildren and numerous nieces and nephews.

Pallbearers included Newman Frank, Micky Replogle, Steven Chalakee Kendell Allen, and John Benjamin Walton.

Honorary Pallbearers were the grandsons Louis McGeeley and the Women of Springtown Indian United Methodist Church.

BILL FISH, JR.

OKEMAH —Funeral services for Bill Fish, Jr. were held on November 22, at the Fish Family Cemetery with Reverend Don Williamson officiating.

Bill was born November 21, 1946 near Dustin to William Bill Fish and Betty Riley Fish.

He was raised in the Dustin area and began school at Graham. As a sophomore he transferred to Sequoyah Indian School in Tahlequah. Following graduation he entered the United States Army. In his second tour of duty in Vietnam he received sever wounds.

EDWARD FIXICO

WELEETKA — Funeral Services for Edward Fixico were held on November 25 at the Alabama Indian Baptist Church in Weleetka.

Edward was born February 24, 1927 in Weleetka to John Fixico and Emma Fier Fixico.

Interment was at the Fixico Family Cemetery.

HEPSEY GILROY

HENRYETTA — Funeral services for Hepsey Gilroy were held on October 21, at the Wilson High School gymnasium with Reverend Timmy Lowe and Reverend John Vance officiating.

Hepsey was born on March 10, 1910 in Henryetta to Timmie Randall and Louisiana Sloan Randall.

She lived all her life on the family allotment in Wilson Community, seven miles northwest of Henryetta.

She was a full blood Indian of the Muscogee Creek tribe and belonged to the Wind clan.

She was a member of the Randall Indian Baptist Church and at the time of her death was mother of the church.

She worked at the Muscogee (Creek) Nation until around 1992 when she retired at the age of

75. During her stint with Creek Nation, she was an instructor in loom weaving, basket weaving, pottery making and bead artistry. Hepsey also taught her crafts at the Tulsa Junior College in Tulsa, and other Indian community sites in and around Creek Nation.

Her hobbies included sewing, quilting, cooking, and helping others. She made quilts for all of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

In 1984 Hepsey was honored by the Muscogee (Creek) Nation as “Person of the Year” at the annual Pecan Festival parade in Okmulgee.

In 1996, Shirlee P. Newman published the “The Creek” and that featured a photo of Hepsey demonstrating her basket weaving.

Hepsey was honored at the first annual Muscogee (Creek) Nation “Living Legend of 2005” ceremony at the Creek Nation Festival held at the Cox Complex during the Creek Festival in Okmulgee.

In 2001 and 2006 her children honored her with her 90th and 95th birthday with many friends and family attending the celebration.

The Oklahoma Native American Basketweavers organization published an article on February 24, 2005 stating that the last and only living known creek weaver who is too old to weave was listed as Hepsey Gilroy.

She was preceded in death by her husband Clemon Gilroy and grandson William G. Jessie, Jr.; two sisters Susie Monday and Angie Screechow; four half-sisters Minnie Lowe, Fannie Coffee, Amanda Cosar, and Rosella Tanquella; and two half brothers Spy Randall and George Randall.

Survivors included three daughters Melissa Seifried, of Tulsa, Wanda Morrison and husband Bill of Santa Fe, NM., Norma Jimerson, of Irvine, CA.; two sons Charles Gilroy and wife Arleta of Tulsa, and Harvey Gilroy of Henryetta; ten grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren and one month old great-great-grandchild; one half brother, Willie Randall; and numerous nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

Pallbearers included grandsons Jody Gilroy, Mike Gilroy, Joshua Goodrich, Marcus Jimerson, Michael Gilroy, and Mike Lollman.

Honorary pallbearers were Tony Lowe, Clarence Seifired-Wind and Roman Randall.

Interment was at the Randall Family Cemetery.

LEWIS HARJO

HOLDENVILLE — Funeral Services for Lewis Wayne Harjo were held November 4, at the Tookparka Baptist Church with Reverend Frank Moppin and Reverend Danny Faulkner officiating.

Lewis was born February 27, 1947 to Amos Harjo Sr. and Louise McCosar Herrod.

He enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in January 1967 where he was on tour of duty in Vietnam, and was honorably discharged on October 29, 1973.

He was baptized on November 29, 1993 at the Tookparka Baptist Church with Reverend Joe Wallace.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brothers: Frank Harjo and Richard Herrod; and sister Gladysteen Herrod.

Survivors include his wife Janie, of the home and four sons: Eric of Tahlequah, Grant “Bubba”, Blaine , and Brent “Opie” of the home; granddaughters: Brittany and Mya of Tahlequah and grandson Zachary, of the home; brothers: Amos Harjo, Jr. of Cyril, and John Herrod of Ada;

sisters: Louise Harjo of Holdenville, Katie Kincaid of Calvin, Zula Herrod of Ada, Minnie Mitchell of Seminole, Frances Herrod of Ada, Leona Herrod and Estelle Herrod of Calvin; uncles: Lewis McCosar of Holdenville, Elliot McCosar of Pawhuska; and special friend Ken Davis.

Pallbearers included Jason Nix, Mark Parris, Kevin Farber, Joshua Harrison, Robert Harrison, and Mitchell Harjo.

Honorary bearers were Andy Wesley, David Paslay, Scott Treadwell, Mark Brannon, Roy Ramsey, and Chuck Speyrer.

Interment was at the Herrod Cemetery.

AGNES HICKS

CROMWELL — Funeral Services for Agnes Marie Little Hicks were held November 6, at the Buckeye Creek Baptist Church with Reverend Wayne Harjo officiating.

She was born in Okfuskee County on March 1, 1945 to Buster and Millie Little and was the oldest of twelve brothers and sisters.

She was of the Raccoon Clan and Eufauloce Tribal Town.

Agnes lived most of her life in the Bearden area.

She was a traditional mother and was previously married to Hanson Hicks and had six children.

Agnes was a devoted member of Buckeye Creek Baptist Church and she previously served as the Women’s Missionary Union (WMU) Director and song leader. Most recently Agnes led the efforts of the women of Buckeye Creek Baptist Church to make lap quilts for nursing home residents.

Her hobbies included collecting ink pens, going to yard sales, and being a loyal Elvis Presley fan.

Survivors include three sons: Curtis Hicks of Ada, Randall Hicks of Muskogee, and Charlie Hicks of Morris; three daughters: Anita Sands of Castle, Hettie Hicks of Okemah, Tina Bear of Castle; nine brothers and sisters: Harvey Little of Bearden, Sallie Little of Bearden, Laura Cloud of Herndon, VA., Thomas Little of Tulsa, Weazel Little of Weleetka, Minnie Little of Tecumseh, Jerry Little of Shawnee, Dave Little of Seminole, and Kathy Little of Seminole; one half brother Douglas Little of Sundown, TX., one half sister Christine Tiger of Ada, and twenty grandchildren.

Pallbearers were Roy Grammar, Earnest McPerryman, Mike Hicks, Jim Humble, Mike Little, Solomon Hill, Oscar Hicks, and Daniel Little.

Honorary Pallbearers included Harry Douglas, Talen Hicks, Tony Sands, and Eric Hicks.

Interment was at the family cemetery.

JOSEPHINE WIND

OKEMAH — Funeral services for Josephine Wind were held November 22, at the High Spring Baptist Church with Reverend Jesse Wind and Reverend Jimmy Anderson officiating.

Josephine was born June 23, 1930 in a one room log home to James Harjo and Mattie Byrd Harjo.

She first attended school in Pharoah and later finished at Haskell Boarding School. She was the valedictorian of her junior class.

She married Monroe Wind in Lawrence, Kansas on December 12, 1945.

Her hobbies included music, gardening, and quilting, she was very athletic as a young lady. She excelled in basketball and is believed to have been a professional fast-pitch softball pitcher for

a short time.

Josephine was a long time member of the High Spring Baptist Church. Her love and faith in God was shown by her kindness , smiles, and strength, especially during times of great personal trials.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband, a sister Wanda Wind, and a brother Joseph Harjo.

Survivors include: four children Virginia L. Rogers and husband Harold, Thomasene Wind and husband Chebon Marks, Charlena Werito and husband Cliff all of Oklahoma City, Thomas Wind and wife Sharon of Denver, Colorado; a brother Eugene Harjo, and a sister Bernice Sealy, both of Weleetka; eight grandchildren, five great grandchildren, along with several nieces, nephews; and host of relatives and friends.

Pallbearers included Kelly Dale Wind, Wayne Cogburn, J.D. Wind , Hokshena Marks, Mitchell Werito, Meske Wind, and Micco Wind.

Interment was at the Wind Family Cemetery.

JIMMIE WOLFE

OKMULGEE — Funeral services for Jimmie Lee “Jim” Wolfe was held on October 23, at the First Baptist Church in Sapulpa, with Reverend Doyle Pryor officiating.

Jim was born April 10, 1934, in Daisy to Raymond Berty and Myrtle James Wolfe. Paternal Grandparents were Coplar Wolfe and Annie Smith Wolfe. Maternal Grandparents were Mose James and Elise Carnes.

He graduated from Nuyaka High School, Connors State College and attended OSU.

He served in the U.S. Army for nine years. He retired from Texaco in 1992.

Jim married Noma Jean Jones December 18, 1959, in Enid.

Jim is preceded in death by his parents; three brothers, Raymond, Ben, and Roscoe Wolfe; two sisters Geneva Bonsack and Wilma Washington.

Survivors include his wife Noma, of the home; sons James Wolfe of Sapulpa, Joel Wolfe and children, Jessica and Berty Wolfe and Crissa Enriquez of Anadarko and Jay Wolfe and children Katherine and Stephen of Oklahoma City; four great grandchildren: Danielle Toehay, Michael Nelson, Matthew Nelson and Chloe Wolfe; brother Richard Wolfe of Grand Island, NE; a special niece Genell Perez of Casselberry, FL, and several other nieces and nephews.

Interment was at the Okmulgee City Cemetery with the VFW Honor Guard providing a salute and Taps.

GRATITUDE

On behalf of Mary Hill, the family would like to express their appreciation and gratitude to those that were present in the loss of their mother. All the help and support that was received was deeply appreciated. The family would also like to give thanks to all the individuals who made monetary contributions, food donations, prayers, and support. The family would also like to thank those who did the cooking, serving, and those whom sat up with the family.

A special thanks to Faith Baptist Church, All the Church members and preachers for the words that were spoken. Thank you to Dustin Community, Hannah Community, and to the Muscogee (Creek) Nation.

Mary Hill family

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The Hot Corner
by
Jason Salsman

Merry Christmas! This is a great time of year here at the Muscogee (Nation) News. Coming together as family on the holidays has always been special to a lot of us. And it's a great time to be a sports fan. More importantly, it's a great time to be a sports writer. My job allows me to research and report something that I love dearly and has allowed me to visit many special places and see some special things. But this past Saturday, takes the cake. I will remember this day for a long time, and how redemption unfolded right before my eyes.

This has not been an easy year for Creek athlete and high school superstar running back Vfastv Locust of Vian. Last year, Locust was on top of the world. The Vian Wolverines had a great record, went deep into the play-offs and it was happening largely because of the lightning speed and patient running of the highest profile Native American football player to come around in quite some time. Along the way, Locust picked up a ring as a member of the Oklahoma All-State squad and set the state single-season touchdown record while rushing for over 2,000 yards. I spoke with him in the summer and was absolutely floored with the humble nature and the sincerity of this young man. I kept wanting him to answer my questions about awards, recognition and records. The way he was swatting the individual questions away reminded me of John McEnroe! He wanted to talk about the team. The goals that were in front of the team were a championship, period. As the interview went on we talked about his life away from football and the hardships he had overcome. But with a true warrior's spirit he overcame those setbacks all along the way. Those experiences would prepare him for his latest obstacle, and maybe his toughest.

Last year Vfastv basically came out of nowhere to shatter records and captivate the state high school scene with his amazing year. That was not the case, coming into his senior season. This was his breakout year, his time in the spotlight. Everywhere you looked his face was gracing the cover of a high school season preview publication. But when the season started the place you could not find him, was on the football field. He was indefinitely suspended and would not play the team's first seven games. Sitting out seven games to start a senior season with such high expectations would probably break a normal person. For Vfastv it was simple, bouncing back was something he had done his whole life. So he sat the first seven games, as Vian carved a path of destruction through their district. When he came back, he was back with a vengeance. His first four games back were vintage Locust: tough running, tons of yards and touchdowns. The highlight of that span was a 200 plus yards game with four touchdowns against Morris in the first round of the playoffs. That set the stage for what might have been his biggest statement.

I traveled to Putnam City High School in Oklahoma City to see Locust and the Wolverines take on Davis, Class 2A's top-ranked team, for a spot in the state championship game. Locust was finding things tough going in the beginning, with the Davis defense sold out to stop him. Holes and yards were tough to come by, but Locust found his way in the end zone twice and Vian went into halftime with the lead. Davis struck first after halftime and after a Locust fumble, his second of the game, went ahead by two scores. Then Vfastv took over. After his third touchdown tied the game with five minutes to play, the Vian defense held and forced a shanked punt to get the ball back with two minutes to play and the game tied. On the first play, 9.5 in slow motion. Like it was giving me time to soak in how meaningful and how special this run was. When he finished off the 56 yard scamper he was in the end zone, and Vian and Locust's cheering section, "The Rez" were on their way to Broken Arrow and the 2A title game. All the bad memories and what-ifs of a great season and great career, fell off of him as he made his way to the end zone on that run. He would not have to answer any more questions about the past, just his wonderful talent and his humble spirit. They say, that youth can teach you the way. I saw redemption before my very eyes, and it made me proud to be Native American on this day.

Creek coaches, players, parents make Dewar Pee-Wee football a success

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

DEWAR — The inaugural season of Pee-Wee football and cheer-leading in Dewar can be categorized with two words; complete success.

The youngsters took their lead from the resurgence of the high school program and ran, racking up many awards and playing good football along the way, while being cheered on by some up and coming cheerleading stars. The league consisted of boys and girls, grades three through six, from the heart of Creek country. Communities represented in the league were Dewar, Schulters, Midway, Ryal and Henryetta.

Creek citizen B.J. Waggnor, better known as "The Creek Warrior" from his professional boxing days, enjoyed watching his sons Nathan and Takoma play and was impressed with the league. "This experience was more than I personally expected for Dewar's first time in a Pee-Wee league," he said. "They learned many things that will translate to the high school level someday, they played complete games, from kick-offs to punting. This was very impressive."

Dewar finished this season as a member of the Tri-County Youth

Football League and will continue that membership in the future. The league consists of teams from Davenport, Wetumka, Wellston, Depew and Yale. The Dewar youngsters made quite a splash in their first year in the league. Raymond Artist (3rd and 4th) and Kyle Britt (5th and 6th) were named MVP's, making Dewar the only team in the league with two. Dewar also delivered a Gold Ball trophy, nabbing the 5th and 6th grade championship. The teams were cheered on every game by 28 dedicated cheerleaders, 14 on each squad.

Many volunteers and coaches worked hard to make the league a

huge success and should be proud of their efforts on behalf of the Dewar community.

Lots of hard work on the part of the players was a tremendous factor in the successful foundation of the Pee-Wee program. Self-discipline played a major factor in their development as they practiced each day after school and strapped on the pads each Saturday.

"Our kids really worked hard, practiced hard, played hard and the final result was their success," said volunteer coach Tommy Britt.

A team celebration picnic was held on November 4, at the Clell W.



Henson Fieldhouse in Dewar. Awards were handed out, the teams reflected and the first season, in what appears to be a long line of successful campaigns, was put in the books.

4 Love of the Game magazine now available online
by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

HENRYETTA — The first issue of 4 Love of the Game Native American Athlete Magazine is now available online at www.4loveofthegame.org

Also new to the site will be sports articles and video of Native American athletes. Featured on 4 Love of the Game's website in December will be Jenna Plumley, Angel Goodrich, and Vfastv Locust.

Copies of the magazine can be picked up at various locations (sites listed on website), but most issues can be picked up at the 4 Love of the Game offices located at 201 W. Main in Henryetta after 6 p.m. or you can contact Lucas Taylor at (918) 650-3920.

Muscogee (Creek) Nation helping organization take athletes to the next level

by Jason Salsman
MNN Sports Reporter

OKMULGEE — If you log on to the 4 Love of the Game website, the quote you will read says to "hold fast to your dreams." Three young ladies, who have taken part in the organization are doing just that.

For Jenna Plumley, Misty Haley and Erin Jent the dream was simple; to play college basketball. As high schoolers they played for their respective schools, but also competed and traveled with 4 Love of the Game, an organization that inspires young Native American athletes through sports competition. The organization's signature event every year is the wildly popular All-Indian March Madness Tournament, and Misty, Jenna and Erin all played in this year's event and played well. So well, that Erin and Misty were invited to travel with the organization to Denver for the All-West Classic, a nation-wide showcase of the best Indian basketball in America.

The Muscogee (Creek) Nation has taken an interest in the organization and decided to assist in shaping the lives of Native American youth. At each year's March Madness tournament the National Council provides funding for scholarships, given to assist the kid's with their college education. In the last year the National Council has appropriated approximately \$150,000 in scholarships to help secure the future of the youth. "Any time our youth can receive benefits to achieve a higher education and we can make it happen, it makes our duties that much more special," said National Council Speaker George Tiger.

One happy recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship from the Muscogee (Creek) Nation was Misty Haley, an enrolled tribal citizen. She is now playing at Northeastern A&M College in Miami, OK for the Lady Norse and providing valuable minutes as a true freshman. Haley's tenacity on the court made her a fan favorite while at Oktaha High School, where she racked up numerous awards and was a state champion.

Fellow 4 Love of the Gamer's Erin Jent and Jenna Plumley are getting in on the act as well. Erin is at Northeastern State University in Tahlequah where she figures to be a force in the future. "Erin is strong and hard nosed, she will be a good rebounder and a strong defender," said NSU women's head coach Randy Gipson. "In time Erin will be an outstanding player, but she'll contribute some as a freshman."

And if you haven't heard of the team Jenna Plumley is playing for these



Haley



Jent



Plumley

days, then you must be living under a rock. She is in Norman playing for coach Sherri Cole and the #3 nationally ranked Oklahoma Sooners. Plumley, arguably the most renowned Oklahoma high school women's basketball players over the last 10 years, is cutting her teeth on big-time college basketball on a team with great chances to reach the Final Four. The point guard has

appeared in all but one of her first seven games as a Sooner and is hoping to provide court leadership and be a defensive stopper.

The motto that 4 Love of the Game organization has adopted is "Building character through sports." If these three young ladies are any indication, then it is accomplishing it's goals. As the organization receives

support in the future, more and more success stories such as these will surface. And with the support of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation continuing this worthwhile cause will branch out to more athletes and inspire them to get the most out of life. So do not put away that excitement for these three young ladies just yet. There is much more yet to come.

4TH ANNUAL ALL-INDIAN

MARCH MADNESS TOURNAMENT

March 2007

TOURNAMENT INFO

OKLAHOMA - Gymnasiums TBA
High School Ages: Boy's & Girl's
Teams Must Be Community Based
Entry Fee \$225 (Non-Refundable)
Deadline is March 1 - Late entries \$250 by March 7
Pool Play & Elimination format
40 Team Limit (20 Boys, 20 Girls)

AWARDS

1st Place - Gold Ball and Individuals Awards
2nd Place - Silver Ball and Individuals Awards
3rd Place - 12 x 15 Plaque and Individuals Awards
4th Place - 10 x 13 Plaque and Individuals Awards
All-Tournament & Male and Female MVP Award
Outstanding Offensive & Defensive Player Award
East/West All-Star Game MVP
Denver All-West Team Selections

SPECIAL EVENTS

3-Point, Team-Ball & Slam Dunk Contests
East/West All-Star Game
College Career Fair
SCHOLARSHIPS: (2) \$1,000 ; (2) \$500 4 Love of the Game; (1) \$500 Muskohke Red Sticks Society; (2) Bacone College (Tuition Only); and (2) Haskell University awarded at Awards Banquet
For more information, contact Lucas Taylor at: (918) 650-3920 or lvme4@yahoo.com

OLD SCHOOL vs. NEW SCHOOL

Are there too many bowl games in college football?



In America, we tend to want to reward everyone, regardless of their effort or commitment toward any endeavor, but also the bottom line in America is money and apparently the bowl (s) system with the yearly expansion seems to please alumni and fans, if no one was attending, then we would not have so many. Plus bowls are a competitive thing and if one

city or state can have more, then it all works out, more exposure, more money, etc. Maybe the Creek Nation needs to create the "Casino Bowl," creating the first college bowl in Oklahoma. Who knows, it just might be crazy enough to work, but then again, other tribes would want to create their own, so maybe the "Fives Tribes Bowl."



The Papa Johns.com bowl? The MPC Computers Bowl? Wait, wait it gets better. The New Mexico Bowl???? Are you kidding me? I cannot believe that mediocrity is so glorified in one of the country's most popular sports. Once upon a time, a bowl game was a reward for a successful season. Now with bowl games being more prevalent, and oddly named, a team

without a winning record can get into a bowl (see Oklahoma State.) Last time I checked, a team with a 6-6 record did not consider themselves as having a successful season, unless that team was Duke or Baylor. Decrease the number of bowls, increase the payouts, and let's really reward the teams that go out and win more than they lose.



Native American Film Festival declared a great success

By Gerald Wofford

TULSA — The Ninth annual Red Fork Native American Film Festival was held last weekend in Tulsa, Oklahoma. The West Campus of Tulsa Community College (TCC) hosts the annual event, which is the longest running Native American Film Festival in the State of Oklahoma. The festival is held in part with the American Indian Studies Program at TCC, which is under the direction of faculty member Steven Woods.

Woods is the co-coordinator of the festival and was pleased with the festival and the attendance. “Each year, we (festival) continue to grow and grow,” said Woods, “in fact we had a good problem this year in that we had to expand the festival to two more days in order to accommodate the amount of Native American films that we received this year.”

Saturday night’s showing of ‘Johnny Tootall’ featured Adam Beach as a veteran of the Bosnian War returning to his home and reservation in Canada. The film coincided with the theatrical release of ‘Flags of Our Fathers’, a film produced by Clint Eastwood about the Marines landing at Iwo Jima during World War II and plotting the flag above Mount Surabachi. In the film Beach portrays Marine Ira Hayes, a Pima Indian.

The festival also honored Charlene



Charlene Teeters addresses the audience at the Ninth annual Red Fork Native American Film Festival. Ms. Teeters was documented in the production ‘In Whose Honor’. A documentary about Indian Mascots.

Teeters who was the focus of the documentary ‘In Whose Honor’, a production dealing with the Indian mascot issue. Teeters has lead the fight against the use of Indian names for teams especially against the University of Illinois.

The festival always like to spotlight local talent, this year’s showing featured Choctaw filmmaker Mark Williams. Williams debuted his film entitled ‘The Dare’ on Thursday evening. The film was about an Indian man who is

haunted by ghosts of his childhood. Woods also pointed that all the films such as ‘The Dare’ and ‘Johnny Tootall’ are literally making their Oklahoma premiere at the festival. “The films that we bring here have never been seen here before and we feel good about that.” Woods also credits other members of the festival staff such as Starr Lebrott and Chris Everett in helping to bring everything together and run smoothly.

With the 10th annual festival already in the planning stages, the festival will include a weekend especially dedicated to the ‘Best of’ of past festivals.

The festival originally began as the ‘Muscogee Film Festival’ and has shown in Okmulgee as well as OSU/Tulsa and the Gilcrease Museum, but has now found a home at the Tulsa Community College West Campus, which historically is known, as the Red Fork District.

One of the unique aspects of the festival is that the event is free of charge, including a dinner held on Saturday evening. “We’re glad that we are able to present this to everyone at no cost,” says Woods. “This is our way of allowing everyone to experience great Native American films and see how talented Indian filmmakers really are.”

Indian Pride Television Series kicks off production during American Indian Heritage Month

FARGO, N.D. — Production is underway for the highly anticipated *Indian Pride*, a part 13-part cultural magazine series to be aired on PBS stations throughout the United States in February 2007. *Indian Pride* will spot-American Indian people Prairie Public Television producing the weekly with Circle of Nations North Dakota.

As the nation celebrates American Indian Heritage Month in November, a full production Broadcasting in Fargo, capturing the essence of in-studio guests for the first program showcases of Indian Nations, and from UCLA, Dr. Duane Champagne, as the in-studio guest. Champagne, an American Indian Professor, is the author of over 100 articles and books on the history of



light the divers cultures of throughout the country. of Fargo, North Dakota, is magazine in cooperation Publishing of Grand Forks,

celebrates American Indian vember, a full production Broadcasting in Fargo, capturing the essence of in-studio guests for the first program showcases of Indian Nations, and from UCLA, Dr. Duane

SEE PRIDE C2

Reach the Rez successfully completes first year of five-year tour

Historically-significant outreach effort travels 54,000 miles, visits 211 native American communities and touches thousands in Indian Country.

SEATTLE, WA — In an unprecedented, nation wide campaign, the Reach The Rez Project recently made history by successfully completing its inaugural music and speaking tour through Indian Country. Covering over 54,000 miles to meet with 211 communities, Reach The Rez delivered messages of strength and empowerment to thousands of Native Americans. While the effort is ultimately aimed at the betterment of all communities and the enrichment of all people, Reach the Rez Programs are specifically designed to effectively reach American Indian people, particularly the youth.

“The tide is turning. We are no longer traveling such distances to flee or relocate — we are covering this ground to unite our people and make us stronger, so our young people will not merely survive but will live a life of purpose.”

What once was termed, “a highly ambitious idea,” the tour has become a reality due to the vision of award-winning Native American rap artist and actor, Litefoot, and title sponsors, the Seminole Tribe of Florida, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation, the Muscogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma, the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma and Daimler/Chrysler. The 2006 tour began in

February and culminated with year’s final show at Seattle’s Indian Heritage High School in October. Litefoot has committed to touring North America’s underserved reservations over a five-year period to help his consistent messages of hope and prosperity take root in Native communities.

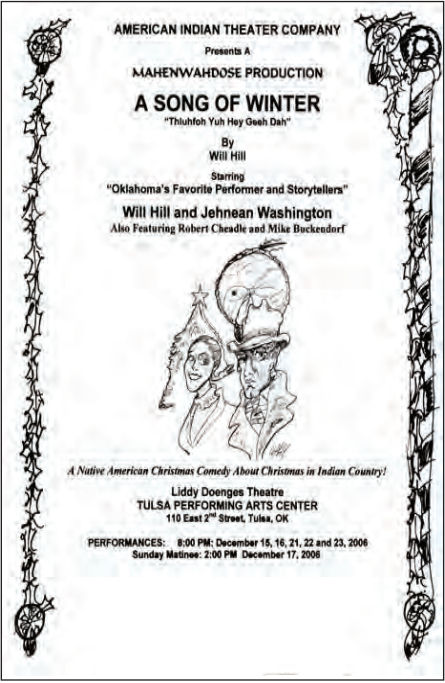
“This movement is unlike any other journey our people have witnessed,” said Litefoot. “Look back at any of the campaigns where Indian people have traversed across these lands, from the Trail of Tears to the flight of the Nez Perce. Too often, these campaigns forced our retreat or relocated us. This is the first large scale effort that has had Natives traveling across the country for something positive and healthy,” he said. “The tide is turning. We are no longer traveling such distances to flee or relocate -- we are covering this ground to unite our people and make us stronger, so our young people will not merely survive but will live a life of purpose.”

A member of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma, Litefoot has invested his musical career in performing concerts for predominantly Native audiences while simultaneously delivering inspiring speeches that purvey his experiences as an artist, his understanding of Native American history and his positive vision for the future of Native people. He developed the multi-faceted Reach The Rez Project with the goal of taking the program to every reservation in the United States and Canada.

SEE REACH C2

AITCO and Mahenwahdose present a Native Christmas Comedy, “A Song of Winter”

Monetta Trepp, Board President of AITCO, is announcing the presentation in December of a Native American Christmas comedy by Will Hill, entitled “A Song of Winter.” The play is a funny, heart-warming story of Christmas in Indian Country...a must for all families and all ages this Christmas Season. “ The play will provide an entertainment opportunity for Oklahoma’s and their out-of-town relatives and friends that visit during the Christmas Season to experience comedy the “Indian” way, in addition to Christmas Carols, and original compositions in Native languages performed by a talented ensemble cast of Oklahoma Native Americans,” said Hill, Artistic Director for Mahenwahdose.



**“It’s Christmas Time Here in Oklahoma!”
“It’s Christmas Time in Indian Country!”**

“A song of Winter,” will feature well-knowns such as the play-wright Will Hill, (full-blood Muscogee), actress Jehnean Washington (Cherokee, Seminole, Yuchi, and Shoshone), Robert Cheadle (Chickasaw), and Mike Buckendorf (Creek). The play will be co-directed by Hill and Washington, well known in the Tulsa area for their comedic skills.

Opening night will be at 8:00 PM in the Liddy Doenges Theater, Tulsa Performing Arts Center, Tulsa on Friday December 15, followed by 8:00 PM performances on December 16, 21, 22, and 23, and a 2 p.m. Matinee on Sunday December 17. Tickets will be \$8 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors, and \$3.50 for children. The price will be \$6.50 for adults in groups of ten. For information regarding the performance, please call the American Indian Theater Company in Tulsa, 918-838-3875, and for ticket information, call the Tulsa Performing Arts Center Ticket Office @918-596-7111 or go to the website, tulsapac.com. For more information call Will Hill at 918-712-7543

Come join us as we gather around the fire and share the voices of our ancestors, our traditions, and our songs, as we have a Happy Holiday!

Thunder Road Theater presents Drew Taylor’s “Someday”

From the 1940s through 60s in Canada—as in the United States—tens of thousands of Indian Children were unjustly taken from their homes, by social workers and offered up for adoption. The “great round up” as it is called in Canada, not only brought incalculable suffering to parents and relatives, it created several generations of Indian children, raised entirely outside tribal circles, with no exposure to other Indians, and no knowledge of their tribal identities.

Drew Hayden Taylor’s “Someday” is a bittersweet comedy that explores this destructive policy in a First Nations setting. Anne Wabung is an Ojibwa woman living on the Otter Lake Reserve, whose firstborn daughter, Grace, was one of these unjustly removed children. When Anne draws a winning lottery ticket, shortly before Christmas, her first move is the hire a detective to find the daughter she has missed all these years. Barb, the daughter who lives with Anne, cautions her mother against expecting too much, but Barb is also anxious to see the sister she has never known. Only Barb’s boyfriend, Rodney, seems unable to get into the Christmas spirit, perhaps because one of his duties is shoveling the eternally falling snow from his future mother-in-law’s driveway. When Grace does show up, the family reunion is not exactly all joy and revelry. It reveals the costs of broken family relationships and cultural disruption.

Drew Hayden Taylor has won numerous awards for his plays, articles, and novels. He is known for his witty dialogue and comic situations that reveal the foibles of Native and non-native characters alike. “Someday” is his third play to be staged by Thunder Road Theater, (formerly Tulsa Indian Actors’ Workshop). TRT produced Bootlegger Blues in 2001 and Baby Blues in 1999 and 2003.

Someday is directed by Vinni Scott, Director of Cultural Programming for the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. The play is partially funded by the Oklahoma Arts Council and supported by a grant from the PAC Trust. Someday runs December 14-16 in the Norman Theater of the Tulsa Performing Arts Center. For ticket info call PAC box office at 596-7111.

Featured Artists

Sculptor Dan Brook

Story provided by Native Art Network. Dan Brook was born on a ranch in Oklahoma and currently resides in Okemah. His artistic talent was evident from childhood. In the fourth grade, Brook entered a youth art show. His drawing was so advanced, the judges accused him of tracing it from a photograph. After graduation from Baylor University, he studied under internationally recognized portrait sculptor, Dr. B.N. Walker. It was then that his talents were combined with the disciplines of the old masters.

Now, his direction is to convey Natives as truly Native and truly human, without chiche' or stereotype. "Belly Laugh", a piece showing a mother blowing on her child's belly, is the first

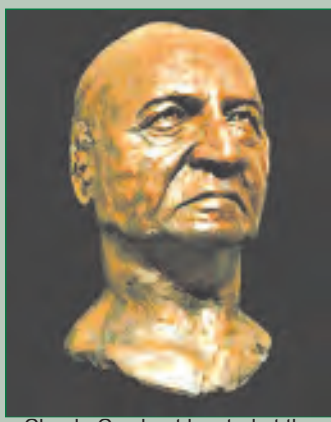


Brook

of this series. "Indians are people. They like to laugh like anyone else", he says with a smile. "My overall goal is to use the gift God has given me and for people to see Him in my work."

Also an accomplished foundryman, Brook does all his own casting, making his pieces truly the work of his own hands, from start to finish.

Dan's work is sought after in both the public and private sectors. Brook was recently commissioned to create the art collection for the Friends of Life charity's new 100,000 foot facility in Waco, Texas. The collection include a ten foot bronze monument, located in front of the facility.



Claude Cox bust located at the front entrance of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation Complex

District Court

continued from C2

In addition to the tour, the Reach The Project includes a documentary film of the tour, a weekly Reach The Rez Radio Show, a Reach The Rez Magazine and the future launch of an interactive Internet community called Global Lodge.

Realizing that few people travel to Indian reservations to learn about the country's first residents, Litefoot and company are proactively preparing a documentary film that will instead take the "rez" to the public. Filmed on location throughout the tour, the Reach The Rez documentary has captured the faces and places of contemporary Indian Country, and will be widely

District Court

continued from C2

Indian Country. As Dr. Champagne shares his view of how American Indian history was passed down through oral and written forms of how American Indian history was passed down through oral and written forms of communication, he sets the record straight... "American Indian Nations had carried on the obligations to their scared teachings for thousands of years before Europeans entered into this land." What is now called "self-government" was a way of life for the Indian Nations... "A sacred moral code and purpose that fulfilled the sacred teachings and obligations, not only to the nation but, to all the beings and powers in the cosmic order." JuniKae Randall of Circle of Nations Publishing is the host of the 13-part series. Randall, a member of the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa has been traveling the country for several months to bring the stories and scenes of American Indian culture to the television screen. Each 30-minute episode includes three distinct segments: mini-documentaries shot on location, on reservations and around other parts of Indian country; in-studio segments featuring discussion of current issues by nationally-known American Indian guests; and original and cultural performances featuring traditional and contemporary artists, as well as storytellers.

Future programs will highlight Indian art, education, traditional healing, storytelling as well

as coverage of critical and timely issues of government, economic development and politics. When the topic of "Treaties and Sovereignty" is aired, Randall's special instudio guest will be the founding director of the Native American Rights Fund (NARF), John Echohawk. Echo-



Indian Pride Chairman
Harold Gus Frank

hawk is a major figure in Indian Country and he will share his perspective on the past and current state of sovereignty among Indian Nations... the treaties that were signed by United States Government...and the treaties now forgotten. He will share what these contracts mean between the United States Government and the Indian Nations.

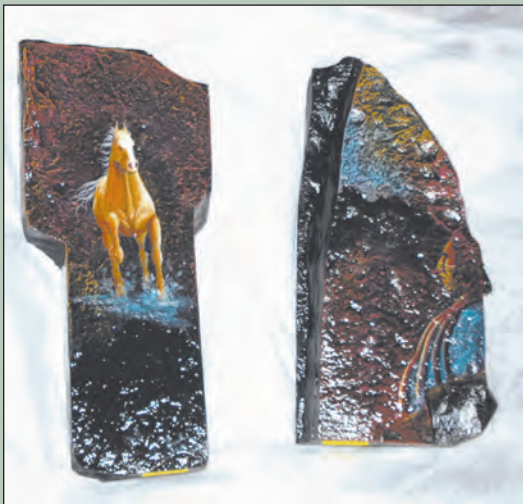
"The Indian Pride television series will feature an educational component both on-screen and via the web. Its national broadcast distribution and website will fully integrate with schools so teachers everywhere can share the contents of their students. This is a significant contribution because modern textbooks contain very little material on the culture, history and struggle of the American Indian. This Program will help bridge that gap," stated Randall.

Indian Pride will be distributed to PBS television stations nationwide through NETA. The world premiere of the 13-week series is scheduled to begin February 3, 2007. Contact your local PBS station for more information.

OKC Indian Clinic Annual Fundraiser Red Feather Gala Artist Bill McCulley

While award winning artist Bill McCulley's art is unique on its own, it is his choice of canvas that gains the most attention. McCulley began using slate rock to release his artistic ambition about four years ago. The method of painting the slate rock begins at the Illinois River, where he finds the slate rock. McCulley then varnishes the rock a shiny black and breaks them apart. By breaking the rock apart, McCulley's fearless curiosity and adventurous artistry.

In addition to the numerous awards McCulley has earned, his painting, Seeking a Vision, has been chosen as the 2006 OKCIC Red Feather Gala Centerpiece. McCulley's artwork can be seen throughout Oklahoma.



The Native Art Gallery in Tulsa, the Five Civilized Tribe Museum in Muskogee, the Cherokee Heritage Center in Tahlequah, the Creek Nation Gift Shop in Okmulgee, the Santa Fe Company in Oklahoma City, and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum are among the many places McCulley's work can be purchased.

McCulley is the son of Frank and Effie McCulley and he currently resides in Prior.

For the past plus years, McCulley has expressed his art on various shaped stone and canvas McCulley uses acrylic and water colors. For more information contact Bill at slaterocart@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Events:

The Pioneer Woman Museum in Ponca City, proudly presents The 2006 Hoffman Challenge Quilt Exhibit.

The Exhibit started October 10, 2006 and will end January 14, 2007.

This will be the only showing of small quilts an clothing collection of the Hoffman challenge in the Southern Plains Region. Bus and Group tours welcome! Call for itineraries.

Please call 580-765-6108 for any questions regarding tours, lodging, local quilt shops and special events.

The museum is located at 701 Monument Road, Ponca City, OK 74604 or visit their website at www.pioneerwomanmuseum.com



Happy Holidays from all of us



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